

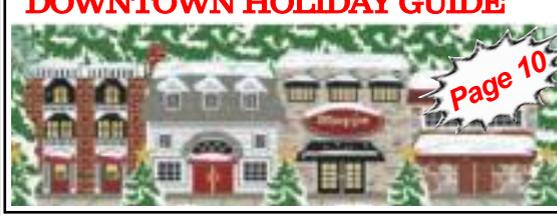
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**RACHEL LOUISE TAYLOR** | Page 13

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**DOWNTOWN HOLIDAY GUIDE**  
 Page 10



**Adoption Guide**  
 Page 6



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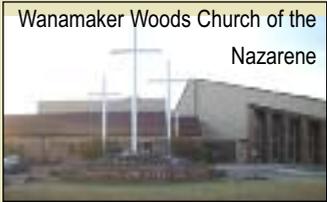
VOLUME 12 • NUMBER 3

**November 2017**

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*See inside back cover!*

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**Part 2 of Adoption and Foster Guide**  
**PAGE 6**

**Annual Red Kettle Campaign Kickoff to Begin Nov. 17**



The season of giving is right around the corner, and the familiar sound of bell ringing will announce the beginning of The Salvation Army's annual Red Kettle Campaign. The Salvation Army, 1320 S.E. 6th Street, kicks off this year's Campaign on Nov. 17th.

They are now accepting applications until December 15th at their headquarters. All that's required is a resume, ID and a Social Security Card. They're also accepting volunteer applications on their website.

To see what times are needed for bell-

■ Please see **RED KETTLE** page 9

**Kansas schools resist pressure to carry transgender books**

The Wichita School District has said it will allow individual school librarians to choose whether they want to carry a controversial book about a fourth-grade transgender student.

Gail Becker, supervisor of library media for the Wichita School District, explained that the novel in question, *George*, is only being carried by four of Wichita's 57 elementary or K-8 schools, along with two middle schools and one high school.

"We haven't denied access to the book," Becker said in an article in *The Wichita Eagle*. "I just left it up to librarians who know their buildings, who know the communities they're serving



... to make that decision."

*George* tells the story of a transgender girl and is aimed at children aged 8 to 12. But according to Becker, a number of passages in the book are too mature for their intended audience.

One passage, for instance, talks about sex reassignment surgery, where *George* is asked: "So, like, do you want to" — he made a gesture with two fingers like a

■ Please see **TRANSGENDER** page 2

**Ministries gear up for service to needy**

The number of homeless and poverty-stricken people seeking help from local charities continues to increase.

Increased need means that food pantries, soup kitchens and other services offered to our needy neighbors continue to stretch the resources of local organizations. The problem seems most critical as Thanksgiving and Christmas approach and we prepare for what could be a bone-chilling winter.

This year Metro Voice readers can again do their part by answering the

call to assist with food and warm clothing donations, finances or just a few volunteer hours.

Metro Voice has annually used our November edition to connect area believers with ministries that serve the homeless and at-risk families in our communities. Through our Ministry Needs Guide, we publish the Christmas "wish list" of these organizations and how you can help them meet the growing needs facing many Topeka area citizens.

These are many of the organizations

that serve our poor and homeless but there are countless others across the metro area. Check with your church or area lay clergy organization to see if there is one that serves your community. Plus, don't forget the smaller rural towns that surround Topeka. These communities often don't have the resources or population to keep their pantries well stocked.

We hope through these efforts, our readers and the broader community will find a place to "plug in" and serve our less fortunate neighbors.

See page 8 for our Ministry Needs feature and a list of organizations and their Christmas "wish lists." Take a moment and pray about how you can help.

**How can you help? See pages 8 & 9**

**Mission Director Outlines Needs**

The Topeka Rescue Mission Ministries has been a community partner in the Topeka area for nearly 65 years.

Last night, nearly 300 homeless men, women, and children stayed in the TRM Ministries shelters. Yesterday over 1000 meals were served to hungry individuals looking for a hot meal. After four years, one of the most at-risk neighborhoods in our city, Hi-



Barry Feaker outlined current needs of TRM Ministries, and explained color-coded "neighborhood health maps" that showed Topeka neighborhoods with various levels of crime and poverty.



Scotch Cleaners and The Salvation Army have once again partnered to provide coats for those in need through the "Share the Warmth" program. From now through November 17, gently-used coats and blankets will be collected for cleaning at Scotch Cleaners locations at 134 SE Quincy St., 2801 SE California Ave., and 2007 NW Topeka Blvd.

Over 224,000 coats have been collected in Topeka in the last 3 decades.

■ Please see **SHARE WARMTH** page 9

■ Please see **NEEDS** page 9

# newsbriefs

## Beautiful plant spirals flummox scientists

(WNS) -- A Swiss botanist recently conducted an intensive study of why so many plants sport flowers or leaves with beautiful spiral patterns that conform to the golden ratio, also known as the divine ratio. The golden ratio, approximately 1.618, has fascinated scientists, mathematicians, architectural designers, and artists for centuries because it appears abundantly in nature. The ratio occurs when the sum of two numbers divided by the larger number produces the same answer as the larger number divided by the smaller number. A multitude of psychological studies show people seem pre-programmed to find the ratio aesthetically appealing. It appears throughout creation in things such as plants, seashells, spiral galaxies, hurricanes, human faces, fingerprints, animal bodies, bird flight patterns, and DNA molecules.



But science cannot explain its purpose or allure. Perhaps a better starting point for understanding is to acknowledge the God who designed it.

## Sex change regret studies silenced

(WNS) -- As rates of sex change surgeries skyrocket, one of the world's leading genital reconstruction surgeons is speaking out about an issue not being addressed: gender change regret. Professor Miroslav Djordjevic lamented in an interview the lack of research on transgender people changing their minds and undergoing surgery reversal. Djordjevic, an acclaimed surgeon and researcher who performs about 100 sex change surgeries every year, recounted a discussion he had with U.K. graduate student James Caspian. Djordjevic told Caspian he was seeing a growing number of patients expressing regret about their gender reassignment and wanting to "detransition." Caspian decided to research the trend of sex change regret for his master's degree at Bath University. The university rejected his proposal telling him they were afraid of online criticism about a "politically incorrect" topic.

## Parents and kids can't turn off the TV or phone

By Lynde Langdon

(WNS)--When it comes to screen time, many parents are ignoring pediatricians' recommendations, a study released by Common Sense Media found.

The survey looked at media use habits among children ages 0-8 and found several alarming statistics:

- Nearly half (49 percent) of all children ages 8 and under sometimes or often use screen media in the hour before bedtime, something the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) warns against, because screen exposure can affect melatonin levels and delay or disrupt sleep.

- Studies have linked background television (when the TV is on but nobody is watching) to shorter attention spans and lower cognitive performance in children. But 42 percent of parents surveyed said they kept the TV in their house on always or most of the time.

- The AAP also recommends no screen exposure for children under 18 months because it disrupts necessary interactions with caregivers that digital entertainment cannot duplicate. Despite that, children under 2 spend an average of 42 minutes a day using screen media, and 34 percent of

them watch TV every day.

- Children from lower-income homes get an average of one hour and 39 minutes more screen time per day than kids in middle- and higher-income homes—a ratio of three hours and 29 minutes to one hour and 50 minutes.

Dr. Jenny Radesky wrote the policy paper that laid out the AAP's revised screen time guidelines for children in 2016.



"While our 2016 media guidelines were designed to be more family-centered and action-oriented, the Zero

to Eight findings tell us that these messages are not reaching the majority of parents, especially the families facing more stress and adversity," Radesky wrote in a report of the survey's key findings.

The survey had a few bright spots in its results: Children's average screen time has stayed roughly the same since 2011 at two hours and 19 minutes per day, though time spent on mobile devices now has a much bigger piece of the pie. Also, children still overwhelmingly prefer reading books to reading on digital devices. Of the 29 minutes on average kids spend reading each day, only about three minutes is spent looking at a screen.

## TRANSGENDER

continued from page 1

pair of scissors — 'go all the way?'

Becker explained: "When I approached this book, I tried to read it from the point of view of a child and not from an adult who's seen some of these words before."

Alex Gino, the book's self-described genderqueer author, accused school districts that decide not to carry his book of being afraid to show children "reality."

"They're either afraid that the book is going to turn them trans — I promise you that doesn't happen — or they're afraid of uncomfortable conversations. ... People are afraid of talking about what they don't know how to talk about," the author argued.

Officials with other Wichita-area school districts also agreed that George should not be forced into elementary school library collections, however.

"Librarians felt that the grade level and reviews of the language — not necessarily the topic — was not best suited for our elementary libraries," said Cory Gibson, Valley Center's superintendent.

Beverly Buller, chairwoman of the selection committee for the William Allen White Awards, based at Emporia State University, said that some members are in favor of making George required to be carried, as there are children in elementary schools who are transgender.

Still, she backed parents who did not want such material forced upon their children.

"If they say, 'You know what? You're only in fourth grade, and I don't want you to read about a transgender fourth-grader,' that's between them," Buller said. "We don't want to be parents."

Transgender books have sparked much controversy in several public schools across the United States. California's Rocklin Academy Gateway's school board recently voted in favor of teaching from books that talk about transgenderism at its elementary schools, with parents not allowed to opt their children out from such lessons.

Greg Burt of the California Family Council slammed the decision, and pointed out that it has led to 40 families and 71 children leaving Rocklin Academy Schools.

"A lot of parents were holding out to see what the school board would do, hoping that they would respond positively," Burt said. "Now that they haven't ... I think you're going to have a much bigger reaction. But we'll see."

# Life Lessons From a Little One

## NO STRINGS ATTACHED

by Jessica S. Hosman

It was his prize trophy. Shiny, tall, gold... all the things little boys dream of when they think of the grand prize. Zechariah received it at the age of five, and was prouder than proud. His eyes got big as he timidly reached out his hands to receive such a great reward. No, he hadn't won it. As a matter of fact, it wasn't even part of a game. It was a gesture from a friend to share how special my little guy was. It didn't matter that it had a softball on it and my son had never played. It didn't matter that it had the name of a church league on it we'd never heard of. It was a trophy. And to my son, it meant everything in the world that now it belonged to him.



For the next few days, Zechariah wanted to take that trophy everywhere. If we drove in the car, the trophy was on his lap being displayed out the window. When we went to the store, the trophy went with us. You would have thought it was the Olympic gold. This was a prized possession and just as special as anything he could have earned.

Over the course of the next year and a half, that trophy remained a great prize. He would take it off the shelf to admire or clean from time to time and loved to show it off when people came over to our house. My son started to grow, but the joy and pride of that trophy never grew old.

You can imagine my surprise when he told me he wanted to give his trophy away. He had made a new friend who had never received a trophy before, and

told my son he doubted he ever would. That's all my son needed to hear. Someone had used it to show him how special he was, and now he wanted to share it with someone who needed to know the same.

The new friend reached out with the same timidity my son had years before; eager, but hesitant, to receive such a special gift. He couldn't believe my son would give it to him. He was excited to take it home and show it off, just as my son had done before.



Jessica Hosman

Zechariah was pleased. And not even a tad remorseful about his decision. Knowing his gift would make another child smile, was reward enough for him.

He didn't weigh the costs. He didn't pine over the fact that he wouldn't own a trophy any longer. He perceived a void in the person in his path and he used what he could to fill it... just to make them feel special and loved.

Jesus didn't weigh the costs. He gave because He perceived a void in us that He knew His love could fill. We are to walk as He walked but often we over-complicate the simplicity of His steps. Could it be as simple as giving just because we see a need without expecting anything in return?

Look around. Don't be afraid to see the needs. And look within to see how you can potentially give. It may be a trophy. It may be an encouraging word. It may be another gift the Lord puts on your heart. Whatever the gift, regardless of how large or small, it is never insignificant when given with love.

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# No. 1 Thing Parents Can Do to Ensure Kids Grow Up as Faithful Christians

by **Stoyan Zaimov** | **Christian Post**

A majority of churchgoing Protestant parents say their adult children are still Christians, but half of them don't practice the tenets of the faith, a survey has found.

The Nashville-based LifeWay Research has listed the top 10 spiritual activities that aid children in their Christian walk, and found that the biggest predictor of spiritual health for young adults is whether they read the Bible regularly in their youth.

"Churchgoing parents want to pass on their faith to their kids — and to see their children make that faith their own," said Scott McConnell, LifeWay's executive director. "But they don't always know how best to make that happen."

The researchers queried parents on 40 factors that could affect a child's moral and spiritual development, such as whether the family prayed, or if the parents are divorced, and asked parents to describe their adult children using eight observable factors, counting for one point each.

The factors included: Identifies as a Christian; Shares his or her faith with unbelievers; Is involved in church; Reads the Bible regularly; Serves in a church; Teaches others at church; Serves in the community; Supports local or foreign missions.

"Eighty-five percent identify as Christians, according to their parents, giv-



Photo: PIXABAY

ing them at least 1 point on the 8-point spiritual health scale," LifeWay explained of the results.

"But only 3 percent had a score of 8, the highest possible. Two-thirds had a score of 2 or less. Half had a score of 0 or 1, meaning they either don't identify as Christians (11 percent) or they identify as Christians but have none of the other spiritual practices (39 percent)."

Parents said that the top factor that determined the spiritual health of their adult children is whether they regularly read the Bible growing up.

The study, sponsored by LifeWay Kids, used a sample of 2,000 Protestant and nondenominational Christians who have a child between the ages of 18 and 30 and who attend religious services at least once a month.

Conducted between Sept. 22 and Oct. 5, 2016, it has a margin of sampling error

of plus or minus 2.3 percent at the 95 percent confidence level. The parents gave observations of a total of 3,472 adult children.

What is more, the survey included a top 10 list of spiritual activities that helped Protestant children growing up, ranking them in order of most helpful:

Regularly attended Sunday school or small group; attended Vacation Bible School; attended youth group/youth worship as a teen; participated in church social activities; regularly attended children's worship/church; attended church camps; regularly served at church; participated in church mission trips or projects; regularly read the Bible; regularly spent time in prayer.

Other surveys, such as one from Gallup in May, found that Americans' trust in the Bible is declining, however.

The poll found that fewer than one in four, or 24 percent in total, said the Bible is "the actual Word of God, and is to be taken literally, word for word."

As many as 26 percent argued, however, that the Bible is "a book of fables, legends, history and moral precepts recorded by man."

The most popular belief, held by 47 percent of respondents, was that the Bible is "inspired by God, not all to be taken literally."

## World Impact featured at C5-Alive Luncheon

The November C5Alive "POWER Luncheon" will be held at Aldersgate Village November 9 from 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Speaking at the luncheon will be Daren Busenitz, Regional VP of World Impact.

The cost to attend the luncheon is \$10 for C5Alive members and first-time guests who RSVP, and \$12 at the door. Non-members and other guests pay \$15. C5 luncheons are open to the public and everyone is welcome to attend, organizers said. RSVPs and inquiries can be sent to [info@C5Alive.org](mailto:info@C5Alive.org).

In addition to monthly "POWER" luncheons held on the second Thursday of each month, C5 also

hosts periodic business fairs and other events, including EasterFest.

The luncheons are held in different locations around the Capital City each month. C5 members may also sponsor luncheons and other events as a way to promote their organizations.



Busenitz

The next luncheon will be held December 11. It will be the annual Christmas Luncheon, and will feature Christmas music, games and fun.

C5Alive is dedicated to developing and uniting Christian Leadership in the community, involving businesses, non-profits and churches.

For more information about C5, go to [facebook.com/C5Alive](http://facebook.com/C5Alive), [C5Alive.org](http://C5Alive.org), or call 785-640-6399.

## World Impact Topeka Offers Luncheon for "Women Who've Changed the Heart of the City"

### FUNDS RAISED WILL GO FOR CLASSES IN TOPEKA CORRECTIONAL FACILITY

As an urban Christian mission organization, World Impact has been serving in under-resourced communities for over 40 years. World Impact is committed to facilitating church-planting movements by evangelizing, equipping, and empowering the urban poor. Locally, World Impact Topeka works with partners to offer The Urban Ministry Institute of Topeka (TUMI Topeka) seminary courses, the Evangelical School of Urban Church Planting, urban retreats, discipleship classes and other initiatives that empower urban leaders.

On Thursday, November 16, 2017, at 11:30 a.m., World Impact Topeka will present the Women Who've Changed the Heart of the City Topeka Luncheon in the Capitol Plaza Hotel Emerald Ballroom. Patterned after City Union Mission's flagship luncheon in Kansas City by the same name, the event will honor women whose vision, compassion and service have made a difference in the lives of those affected by poverty or incarceration in Kansas. Sponsorships will make it possible for the seminary-level, leadership development classes to be held in Topeka Correctional Facility, where 58 women are currently enrolled in the pre-require class for the program. The purposes of the event are to honor women who

have made significant impact on our communities, and empower incarcerated women for significant futures.

The following women will be recognized for exemplary service in the areas of rescue ministry, community, nutrition and educational initiatives, and missional work among those impacted by poverty or incarceration.

- Nell Ritchey, Topeka
- Glenda DuBoise, Topeka
- The Benedictine Sisters of Mount St. Scholastica, Atchison

By attending this celebration of inspirational leaders, sponsors will empower women who are incarcerated in our Kansas women's prison, the Topeka Correctional Facility, to change the heart of their cities.

Sponsorships and event information are at [www.womenwhovechanged-topekaluncheon.eventbrite.com](http://www.womenwhovechanged-topekaluncheon.eventbrite.com), or call 785-431-6000 for more information.



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## A new era for international religious freedom?

by **Evan Wilt** | WNG

WASHINGTON—People often ask Sam Brownback what to call him: governor? Senator? He hopes soon to add a new option to the list: ambassador.

The Republican governor of Kansas and former U.S. senator is President Donald Trump's choice to take over as ambassador-at-large for international religious freedom, a post vacant since January.

Brownback went to Washington for his confirmation hearing recently, putting

him one step closer to the State Department's International Religious Freedom (IRF) office—a group that could look quite different if and when he takes charge.

At the end of August, Secretary of State Rex Tillerson sent a letter to Congress outlining a proposed State Department makeover. Tillerson wants to eliminate or defund dozens of special envoy positions and consolidate various offices and bureaus. The proposal includes funneling the department's representative for

Muslim communities, its special envoy to the Organization of Islamic Cooperation, and special adviser for religious minorities in the Near East and South/Central Asia into the IRF office. Tillerson also plans to merge the department of Religion and Global Affairs (RGA) with IRF.

The secretary of state implemented a hiring freeze at the State Department earlier this year and asked Congress to cut back on spending. Tillerson hopes the restructuring will streamline the department's work.

Tom Farr, a Georgetown University associate professor and president of the Religious Freedom Institute, told me adding more responsibilities to IRF is a good idea.

"If you've worked in any bureaucracy, you'd know sometimes groups just don't talk to each other," he said. "So if you have one guy at the top of it who is coordinating it and making sure everybody is speaking out of one songbook so to speak—it's very important. I think Ambassador-designate Brownback can do that."

While in Congress in 1998, Brownback helped guide legislation that created the ambassador-at-large position. If confirmed, Brownback said Wednesday he hopes to fulfill the role's original mission: putting partisan politics to rest for the sake of international religious freedom.

But he faces an uphill battle. Religious freedom advocates tell me a culture of indifference toward religion pervades the State Department. Faith McDonnell, director of religious liberty programs at the Institute on Religion and Democracy, said some staffers don't respect anyone who works in the IRF office. "It's been that way a long time," she said.



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# opinion

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## THE CASE IN FAVOR OF THANKSGIVING

### viewpoint

By **Creation Research Institute**

Perhaps no other custom reveals our nation's original character as clearly as the celebration of Thanksgiving Day. Other countries have adopted similar observances, but America was the first to nationally recognize its dependence on God with a special day set aside for thanksgiving for His wondrous provision and deliverance.

Although the exact date of the first American Thanksgiving observance may be uncertain, there is no question that this treasured custom sprang from our deep Judeo-Christian heritage. From early Spanish expeditions in the late 1500s, to a small band of settlers in Maine in 1607, each group held services to give public thanks to God. Twelve years later, settlers in Virginia set aside a day of thanksgiving for their survival on the shores of this vast and uncharted land. And in 1623, Governor William Bradford created the most famous of all such observances at Plymouth Colony when a bounteous harvest prompted him to proclaim a special day to "render thanksgiving to ye Almighty God for all His blessings."<sup>1</sup>

In 1777, during the War of Independence from England, the U. S.

Continental Congress set aside a day for thanksgiving and praise for the decisive victory at Saratoga, marking the first time that all American colonies took part in such an event on the same day. The following year at Valley Forge, George Washington declared a special day of thanksgiving upon receiving news that France had agreed to provide aid. And later, as the fledgling nation's first president, he responded to a congressional petition by declaring Thursday, November 26, 1789, as the first Thanksgiving Day of the United States of America.

Since that first Thanksgiving declaration, many state and national days of thanksgiving have been proclaimed for a variety of reasons. But it was the tireless crusade of one woman, Sarah Josepha Hale, that finally led to the establishment of this beautiful observance as a national holiday. Her moving editorials so touched the heart of Abraham Lincoln that in 1863--even in the midst of the Civil War--he enjoined his countrymen to be mindful of their many blessings, cautioning them not "to forget the source from which they come," that they are "the gracious gifts of the Most High God" who ought to be thanked "with one heart and one voice, by the whole American People."<sup>2</sup>

We declare our gratitude to God for the many blessings He has showered upon our



ministry, our lands, and our people. And in this season of Thanksgiving, we are most grateful for our abundant harvests and the productivity of our industries; for the discoveries of our laboratories through the work of our researchers, scientists, and scholars; for the achievements of our writers, clergy, and teachers, physicians, businessmen, and public servants, farmers, mechanics, and workers of every kind whose honorable toil of body and mind rewards them and their families and enriches our lands. Let us then thank God for our families, friends, and neighbors, and for the joy of this heritage of thanksgiving that we celebrate in His name.

Let every house of worship, every home, and every heart be filled with the spirit of praise and gratitude and love for our Great Provider on this Thanksgiving Day. As the psalmist sang, "Unto thee, O God, do we give thanks, unto thee do we give thanks: for that thy name is near thy wondrous works declare" (Psalm 75:1). In this vein, won't you prayerfully join with ICR to see that His wondrous works are declared throughout the land?

1. Governor William Bradford's Thanksgiving Proclamation, Plymouth Plantation, 1623.

2. Proclamation of Thanksgiving, Abraham Lincoln, 1863.

## metro VOICE

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LEE HARTMAN  
Managing Editor  
Metro Voice

### editor's blog

Just so you know.....

Topeka needs a full time mayor. I don't see how anyone can think we can get by with a part-time mayor who works another full-time job and tries to be mayor "after hours."

The laws of America were founded on Biblical teaching. That's why there are carvings of Moses at the entrance to the

Supreme Court. It's simply our history, and most of us are okay with that. If a people's religion is not reflected in their lifestyles, culture and laws, then it's not much of a religion, is it? Being based on Christianity is what made America good, and also great. The farther we move away from it, the less good, and less great, we become.

It's funny that religious folks are called foolish by those who believe that everything came into being from nothing, caused by nothing, and - with no design from anyone or anything - evolved into human beings.

All you have to do is look around to know that the earth and the universe was designed in a very precise way. (Even if we were silent, "the stones themselves will cry out.")

The Bible is universally recognized for

the wisdom it contains, even by non-religious people. "The fool has said in his heart, 'there is no God.'"

By the way, the Bible NEVER condoned slavery, only advised how to live under it. And it was Christians and the Church who led the charge to get rid of slavery, both in

England and the US.

And it was the Church that restored equality to women, since God created them equal but different in the beginning.

And it is the Church and Christians who will lead the way to reversing the great social issue of our time - legalized abortion.

Lanell GRIFFITH  
Topeka City Council  
District 1

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## Turn this into a blessing!

Dear Dave,

We're following your plan, and we're in the middle of paying off all our debts except for the house. My wife just learned she'll be losing her job at the end of the year. She's a project manager for a software company in Seattle, and she will be receiving a severance package if she works until year's end. We were curious as to how you think we should handle the next few months.

Kevin

Dear Kevin,

I know you guys are scared right now, but from what you've told me this could be the kind of thing that turns into a blessing. First, she should already be looking for another job to start right after her current employment ends. That way, any severance pay will turn into a signing bonus of sorts.

I know there are always question marks and uncertainties when you're job hunting, but this lady is a software project manager in Seattle, Washington. You're not in the middle of a cornfield, dude. If she can't find something in the next four-to-five months, there's some other issue you're not telling me about.

Now, in the very unlikely event she doesn't land another gig, you guys are going to have to put Baby Step 2 on hold for a while, and cut your spending down to the bare necessities until something does come along. But your lady has a super-employable skill set. If she gets out there and really busts it looking for another job, I think you two are going to land on your feet and in even better shape than before!

—Dave

### Time to leave

Dear Dave,

My brother-in-law moved in with us several months ago. He's 32, and he does-

n't have a job or contribute anything in terms of helping around the house or with bills. I think he needs to move out, but my wife is hesitant to say anything. She complains about the situation to me, but she knows her family will be upset if we do anything. How can we handle this?

Dear Chuck,

Responsible adults don't behave like bums, and I don't care what the rest of the family thinks. This issue is between you and your wife. You two are the only ones dealing with this, so it's easy for others to chime in about what should happen.

You shouldn't just kick the guy out, but you do need to get busy formulating a plan that will allow him to get back on his feet. Have a gentle talk with him about the situation and his future, and tell him things aren't going to continue on the same path. Let him know he must have a job within 30 days, and 30 days after that he has to move into his own place. Write it down on the calendar, if it will help, but make sure he understands why you're doing this and the date he must move out.

I know these things can be difficult, but sometimes you've got to take the bull by the horns and make something happen. It's what's best for him – and both of you – in the long run.

—Dave

### Home improvement debt?

Dear Dave,

I'm debt-free except for my home, and I'm considering having solar panels installed on the roof of the house. It would cost about \$27,000. I have \$80,000 in savings, but the company doing the installation will finance it all for just one percent interest. It's almost like free money. My electric bills average around



**DAVE RAMSEY**  
Financial author,  
radio host, television  
personality, and  
motivational speaker

**davesays**

\$310 a month, and I thought this would be a good way to save money in the long run. What do you think?

Michael

Dear Michael,

If you have to finance the project, my answer is no. My guess is the break-even analysis you're trying to give me is the sales pitch your solar panel company gave you. That's how they sell solar panels, but it doesn't justify going into debt.

You told me you have around \$80,000 in savings right now. Why not just write a check? Let me ask you a question. What if you could borrow \$10 million at one percent interest and put it in the stock market? Would you do that? Of course, not. It would be way too risky, right? Basically, we're talking about the same kind of thing. I made you feel the risk by scaling things up in my scenario. You're not feeling the risk right now because we're talking about \$27,000 instead of millions.

This move wouldn't bankrupt you, but wealthy people don't do the kind of thing you're talking about. Either pull the money out of your savings account and buy the panels, or don't buy them at all!

—Dave

### You need a better plan

Dear Dave,

My husband opened his own commercial painting business in May. He knows he will have about three months in the year where he's making little to no income. We've gotten \$1,000 set aside for our Baby Step 1 beginner's emergency fund, but because of that down period he would like to skip paying off all our debt except for the house, which is Baby Step 2, and move to Baby Step 3 and put an emergency fund aside. I can understand his thinking, but I wanted your thoughts on the idea.

Melody

Dear Melody,

Baby Step 3 is not a fill-in-the-gap measure for income you already know won't be there. Baby Step 3 is an emergency fund of three to six months of expenses, and the scenario he's talking about is not an emergency. He knows it's coming, so it is not an emergency.

I think he needs to re-work his business model. This guy needs something to do during those three months, so he doesn't drop off to no income. Also, if you're going to set some money aside for a down time, that would not be Baby Step 3. It would be a line in the budget where you're setting some money aside,

because you know a problem's coming.

If something happens around the same time every year it becomes predictable, and it's not an emergency. So, it's not really a matter of the order of the Baby

Steps. You budget for this down time, or even smarter, figure out a plan for his time during these months, based on his skill set, that will earn some money!

—Dave

## Teachers Have Tax Advantages

By Peggy Beasterfield  
Owner, Peggy's Tax and Accounting Service

As teachers, administrators and aides have launched into their fall semester, taxes may not be on the top of their list. However, knowing what to keep track of now can help reduce the burden at tax time.



The Internal Revenue Service reminds educators that there are three key work-related tax benefits that may help them reduce what they pay in taxes.

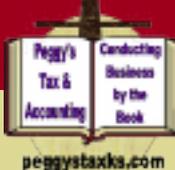
Educators can take advantage of tax deductions for qualified expenses relat-

ed to their profession. The costs many educators incur out-of-pocket include items such as classroom supplies, training and travel.

There are two methods educators can choose for deducting qualified expenses:

- Claiming the Educator Expense Deduction (up to \$250)
- For those who itemize their deductions, claiming eligible work-related expenses as a miscellaneous deduction on Schedule A.

A third key benefit enables many teachers and other educators to take advantage of various education tax benefits for their ongoing educational pursuits, especially the Lifetime Learning Credit or, in some instances depending on their circumstances, the American Opportunity Tax Credit.



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## How adoption will change your life forever

By **Paul Batura**

Since receiving the privilege of adopting our three sons, my wife, Julie, and I have allowed ourselves to ponder the “What ifs?” surrounding their lives and adoptions. What if their birth mothers had not chosen to courageously carry them to term? What if they had chosen someone else to adopt them? What if they had decided not to make an adoption plan at all?

All of these questions, some admittedly haunting ones at that, led me to start pondering the “What ifs?” of other well-known adoptees.

For example, what if John Hancock had become a pastor instead of a politician? What if Nelson Mandela’s adoptive father didn’t have deft leadership skills that rubbed off on his son? What if Steve Jobs had been adopted by a couple in Florida instead of one in Silicon Valley?

With these “what ifs” in mind, I tried



to investigate the circumstances surrounding the providential adoptions of men and women who grew up to change the world. Unfortunately, most of the information about their adoptions was limited to a single sentence in their biographies.

But there had to be more. How could such an emotional, monumental, and transformational moment be reduced to a passing reference? Was their adoption a mere factual footnote in their lives, like their birth date or

hometown, or was it one of the driving forces behind the stories of their successes?

This is what led me to write *Chosen For Greatness: How Adoption Changes the World*. In it, you’ll see that every single one of the individuals profiled didn’t succeed in spite of being adopted or intimately cared for by someone other than their biological parent; they rose to their level of accomplishment in no small part because of their adoption and relationship with their new parent or

parents.

In fact, their adoption didn’t just change the course of their lives and the families who embraced and loved them. Instead, you’ll see their adoption has changed—and is changing—the course of your life and mine.

You’ll also see, I hope, that adoption, like life itself, is a gritty and an often imperfect process. It’s nothing like you

see in the movies, watch on television, or even read in a bestselling novel.

Indeed, it’s far more dramatic—because the stories you’re about to read are true and involve real people who made and are making a significant difference in the world.

—Paul Batura’s *Chosen For Greatness: How Adoption Changes the World* is in bookstores now.

## God helped our family grow overnight

In 2003 I married by best friend. We tried to get pregnant, but it never happened. We went to several doctors who said we couldn’t get pregnant due to infertility issues I was having.

Finally in 2012, we listened to what we felt God was telling us we needed to do: Foster care. I called KCSL and asked how we could become foster parents. We were looking to adopt from foster care and prayed it wouldn’t take long. We had a few kids placed with us who were able to return to their family and then finally

November 14, 2012, we received a phone call asking us to take in two sisters. Of course we said yes. Over the next three years we cared for and loved these two precious girls as if they were our own. Finally in the beginning of July 2015 we were approved to adopt Sumaya and Sanaa. Two weeks later we found out I was



pregnant. The adoption was finalized November 21, 2015, and we gave birth to our son March 4, 2016. Our family practically grew overnight, but we couldn’t be happier. This is our first family photo taken July 2016.

—Ronmel, Heather, Sumaya, Sanaa, & Jay-Shaun Gilbert

## Considering adoption?

It’s a big decision, making a lifetime commitment to a child. Beginning or expanding your family through adoption can be both exhilarating and terrifying at the same time. And the process can seem more than a little overwhelming.

At Saint Francis Community Services, we’ll help you get started on the right track with you to the end.



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# These Kansas kids need forever homes

Do you know what aged-out means? It's when a child turns 18 and enters adulthood still in foster care, never having found a forever family. While many young couples choose to adopt infants, there are hundreds of children who are older but have never known a loving home. Metro Voice seeks to assist these children find a forever family before they enter adulthood. Here are the kids who just may be a perfect addition to YOUR family. These children are from Kansas.

For information on any of these great kids, call 1-877-457-5430.

## Sheila

Sheila is 16 and is a delightful girl with a beautiful smile! She enjoys playing with animals, listening to music and going for walks. She is a great singer and is most proud of her writing. Sheila's favorite class in school is baking and pastry. She enjoys interacting with people who have a sense of humor and is happy to just hang out and talk. Sheila needs a family who can keep her smiling and meet her needs now and in the future. Case # CH-5241



## Deacon

Sixteen-year-old sports fan Deacon is a smart and resilient teen who enjoys staying active. Football, basketball and baseball are among Deacon's favorite sports. Football is his favorite sport to participate in, but Deacon believes he's best at playing basketball. When he's not participating in sports Deacon enjoys going to the YMCA. Deacon's favorite class in school is his math class. After high school he would like to attend college to study genetics. Deacon is a great kid who deserves a family that will love and care for him unconditionally. Case # 101440



## Juan

Juan is 15 and loves when others read to him! Juan enjoys anything that makes music or sounds; his Elmo toy that sings and dances is his favorite. Juan is most happy when he is around other people; he shows that he is happy by smiling. Juan is home schooled and has a very special relationship with his teacher. He is learning to communicate his needs and wants by using "eye gazes". He is also learning to stamp on paper. Juan has skilled nurses that care for him around the clock. Juan needs a family that can physically commit to caring for Juan's multiple needs for many years to come. He deserves a family that can provide unconditional love, patience, and help support him throughout his life. He needs a forever family that will advocate for him and that is knowledgeable about medical services in their community. Only families in Kansas will be considered for Juan at this time. Case # 101453.



## Shawn and Dorothy

Shawn, 12, and Dorothy, 11, would like a forever family to call their own. Shawn loves trains, cars and anything that has to do with Thomas the Tank Engine. He prefers to play with younger children instead of same aged peers. Shawn gets extremely

anxious during times of transition. He will need to have an adjustment period to get settled in. Shawn will need a lot of one-on-one attention to guide him through those transitions and in the classroom. Shawn continues to work on how to better manage his behaviors in the classroom. Shawn does better when things are structured and a solid routine is in place.



Dorothy is a loving child that enjoys coloring, dancing and having tea parties! She likes going on evening walks to help burn off some energy. Her favorite time at school is art and she likes being able to share her art projects with others. Dorothy continues to make improvements in school. She will need school professionals that are willing to work with Dorothy and understand her special needs. Dorothy continues to work on improving her interactions with her peers and expressing herself through words instead of actions. Like her brother, she does better with a strict routine in place. Dorothy will need to have her own room in her forever home. At this time, only families living in Kansas will be considered for these children. Case # CH-5852

## Ryan

Fresh air, sunshine, and wide-open spaces bring a smile to Ryan's face. Ryan is 15 and has a huge love for the outdoors! He enjoys fishing, riding four wheelers, camping, and taking care of horses. He states that "being outside helps keep me calm." Ryan enjoys staying active both outside and inside. He also



enjoys football, soccer, and wrestling. When asked what Ryan's favorite class is at school he answers, "PE for the exercise" and science class because he enjoys the experiments, stating, "it's fun to learn about new things and see what happens during the experiment." Ryan currently has educational supports in place and is attending an online school where he is doing very well.

Ryan is overcoming past trauma, but is making great strides in his progress. Ryan's social worker states that he is "kind and cares about others." Ryan would benefit from a patient, supportive family that will encourage and guide him as he continues to ov" family that will always stick by his side and continue to help him grow and thrive. When asked what kind of a family Ryan would like to have, he answers, "I would like to have a mother and father" Case # CH-5068

## Megan

Megan is 9 and is a happy and friendly young lady. She is very good at games and enjoys playing games with her friends, and also playing with her dolls. Her favorite class in school is music class because she gets to sing and dance, both of which she loves doing. She likes to laugh, and Disney movies are the best at making her laugh. She wants to be a Disney princess when she grows up. Megan works hard at picking up toys and following the rules. Megan is friendly and funny and looks forward to finding a forever family who can help her grow and thrive. Only families living in Kansas will be considered at this time. Case # CH-6114



## 32 years Fostering Children Pays Back Mother's Wish

On his own since age 15 when his mother passed away, Darrell Stewart worked overnight and put himself through high school. Honoring his mother's wish that he would have a better life, he and his wife fostered children in their home for 32 years to help those children have a better life. On Oct. 4 Stewart was honored with a Topeka City of Character recognition certificate.

Stewart serves as community outreach manager for Shawnee County Parks + Recreation. At his mother's hospital bedside when she passed away, Stewart committed himself to honoring her wish for him. He worked overnights at Jostens Publishing, got himself to school in the morning, napped in the afternoon and then went to work again.

As an adult, Stewart began fostering children in his home. He bought few items for himself, choosing instead to invest his earnings in the children so they could have a better life. For years, he ran SCP+R's Hillcrest Community Center, holding to the philosophy that the more time kids spent in the center doing something positive and productive, the less time they spent on the streets where they could get into trouble. Today, he is a Key SCP+R link to the community, working with neighborhood associations and neighborhood improvement associations as well as partner agencies to improve SCP+R's service to the community.



## Nicholas's Siblings

Energetic, sporty and super smart describes these three siblings! They all agree that they love country living, pets, and each other. They would enjoy an active family who would keep them involved in school, sports and art. Nicholas is the big brother. He excels in art and in sports and he's a valuable asset to his high school football team. Nicholas enjoys joking around with friends, playing video games and he has a close bond with his younger sisters. The middle sibling, Demetria loves to be the center of attention! Like her older brother, she loves sports, especially soccer and softball. She is a hard worker who expresses pride in being on the honor roll at her school. She does especially well in math and science classes because they are her favorite and will help her achieve her dream of becoming a doctor. She gets along well with others and truly enjoys giggling at her younger sister, Kylie. Kylie is a Straight A student who says she loves all of her classes so much that she couldn't pick just one favorite. She likes to play soccer and softball and is also quite a gymnast. She is witty and smart and has a great sense of humor. She enjoys making her older siblings laugh but says she cracks up the most when her older brother tickles her. They need a family who enjoys attending sporting events, helping with homework and has the energy to keep up with this fun loving bunch! Case # CH-6068

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Adopt Kansas Kids works to connect foster and approved adoptive families with children throughout Kansas who need adoption. This service is provided by the Kansas Children's Service League through a contract with the Kansas Department for Children and Families (DCF).




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# MINISTRY NEEDS GUIDE



Each year Metro Voice provides a listing of organizations that serve the most vulnerable in our communities. Whether it is the single mom and her children, our elderly, orphans, the sick, the homeless or incarcerated, our readers respond with prayers, time, items and finances to keep these ministries going throughout the year. "But if anyone has the world's goods and sees his brother in need, yet closes his heart against him, how does God's love abide in him?" 1 John 3:17. Let us all work together to show the love of Christ this Christmas and the coming year. Together, we can make a difference.

**ALPHA CHRISTIAN CHILDREN'S HOME AND SCHOOL.** Perry, Ks; 785-597-5235; www.alphachristianchildrenshome.com; Michelle Kincaid. A ministry for children in need due to poverty, abuse, neglect, being orphaned, or having other needs. Alpha provides the children with a loving family and opportunities for healing and growth. A school learning center promotes excellence and success academically, sometimes for the first time, for each child. Alpha is 100% privately funded, and there is no tuition charge for those served. We are always in need of financial support, as well as food, clothing, and toys for the kids. We also have a list of special needs.

**BREAKTHROUGH HOUSE, INC.** Contact Person for Wish List donations: Lynn Davis; 785-232-6807 ext 108 (Topeka number); 525 SW Topeka Blvd, Topeka, KS 66603 (for drop off). Website: www.breakthroughhouse.org; Facebook: www.facebook.com/BreakthroughHouse-Inc-228527173160/.

Breakthrough House is a non-clinical, non-medical, private non-profit that helps support individuals with mental illness. Our mission is To Empower Our Mental Health Consumers to Live Independent, Impactful Lives. In 2018, Breakthrough House is celebrating 40 years of serving those individuals with severe and persistent mental illness. We try to fill the needs of our service population where the medical and clinical leaves off. We serve over 350 residents of Shawnee County every year through one of our three programs: Breakthrough Clubhouse, a place for consumers to gather every day, for socialization, activities, and a healthy meal; Breakthrough Residential Program, a supportive-care program which includes two state-licensed group homes and independent apartments; and the Breakthrough Representative Payee Program, working through the authorization of the Social

Security Administration, ensuring our consumers' rents, utilities and medical bills are paid, and in that way, helping to prevent homelessness and stability. We maintain a small food pantry for our consumers consisting of non-perishable items only, as well as personal hygiene items. We are always in need of these items – any non-perishable food items and hygiene items for men and women such as shampoo, soap, shaving cream, deodorant, toilet paper. All items will go to Breakthrough House consumers only. We encourage wise use of discretionary income, but sometimes things happen, and our food pantry and hygiene supplies helps out, when needed, but only if available. We also welcome volunteers at our Clubhouse. Do you have a special interest or hobby you can share with our Clubhouse members? Thank you so much for anything you can do to help our consumers!

**CARING PREGNANCY OPTIONS.** 2041 SW McAlister, Topeka, Ks 66604; 249-6130; www.cpotopeka.org. Mon-Thurs Noon-4:30. Closed Friday and weekends. Kathy Hart, Executive Director. Provides free pregnancy tests, pro-life counseling, information and education to pregnant women, maternity clothes, baby clothes and items, and referrals for professional counseling. Volunteers and financial support are needed, also formula and blankets. A non-political, non-profit ministry.

**CATHOLIC CHARITIES OF NORTHEAST KANSAS.** 234 S Kansas Avenue, Topeka, KS 66603. www.catholiccharitiesks.org. Founded in 1956, Catholic Charities of Northeast Kansas is a non-profit health and human services agency that assists annually more than 85,000 people of all faiths. Our work strengthens both families and communities in the 21 counties we serve. Our vision is that our neighbors who are challenged by poverty of mind, body and spirit find the open door of Catholic Charities in our communities and are met with help, hospitality and hope. The Topeka location always has a need for food drives and donations.

**CHRISTIAN STREET WITNESS and CHRISTIAN NEIGHBOR CENTER.** 107 SW 14th St., Topeka, Ks, 66612; 354-8763. James Kincade, House Manager. Purpose is to share the Good News, feed and clothe the hungry, work with ex-convicts, the down and out, alcoholics, drug addicts, widows and orphans, abused women and children, and others going through difficult times; help them find jobs, counsel them and offer them a safe place. Donations/volunteers needed. Current needs include canned goods and help with the chapel window project.

**CHRISTIANS FOR LIFE.** PO Box 3856, Topeka, Ks, 66604. 267-5777; bakerbarb54130@gmail.com; Barbara Saldivar. Christians for Life, Inc. is the pro-life ministry that facilitates the Heart of

America Memorial Wall for the Unborn, located at 1216 SE Republican Avenue. We offer those who lost a baby through miscarriage, still birth, or abortion a place to put their child's name on the wall of remembrance. Donations toward the cost are always welcome and needed but not necessary. In addition to the memorial park, post abortion bible studies are offered. Meetings are held the 3rd Monday bi-monthly, starting in February, 7:00 PM at

Community Church. The public is welcome.

Donations and volunteers to assist with upkeep of the grounds are needed.

**DOORSTEP, INC.,** Doorstep, Inc., 1119 SW

10th Avenue, Topeka, Ks, 66604; 357-5341; www.doorsteptopeka.org. Doorstep is an emergency aid agency providing assistance for families and individuals in need for (remove nearly) 50 years. The agency is primarily supported by 56 area member congregations with grants from the City of Topeka, Shawnee County and The United Way of Greater Topeka. Doorstep provides food, clothing, household goods, and assistance for rent, utilities, rx/dental & transportation for thousands of households all year long. Doorstep is in need of donations of food, clothing and household items (blankets, sheets, pots & pans, dishes, etc.) and monetary funds to provide emergency services to our neighbors in need. Regular office hours are Mon.–Fri. 8am–3pm. Volunteer opportunities also available.



**THE DOVETAIL SHOPPE.** 12th and Washburn, Topeka, Ks; 234-3004. The Shoppe has clothing, household items, trinkets, furniture, children's items and once even had the kitchen sink! There are no prices at the Dovetail Shoppe we ask that customers give a 'reasonable' donation for the items they choose. Dovetail is open on Thur, Fri & Sat, 10am–4pm. Donations are accepted at the Shoppe during open hours or at Doorstep. They will pick up large items. Call Dovetail 234-3004 to make arrangements for a pickup. The Dovetail Shoppe is Doorstep's version of a thrift store and is open to anyone who is looking for clothing or household items or shopping for a bargain.

**KANSAS CHILDREN'S SERVICE LEAGUE.** 3545 SW 5th St, Topeka, Ks, 66606; 274-3100 or Toll Free 877-530-5275; www.kcsl.org; Email: gcozadd@kcsl.org. A statewide, not-for-profit agency with a mission to protect and promote the well-being of children. Founded in 1893, KCSL's programs work

to help keep kids safe, families strong, and communities involved. Our services touch the lives of some 40,000 children and their families each year. Among KCSL's programs in Northeast Kansas are adoption referral services for children in foster care through www.adoptkids.org, foster home sponsorship, infant adoption, parent education, Healthy Families, and a range of child abuse and neglect prevention services including the Community Resource Library and Parent Helpline. Needed items include clothing and toiletries.

**KANSANS FOR LIFE.** Topeka, KS. Phone: 785-234-2998, E-mail: topeka@kfl.org Website: www.kfl.org. Jeanne Gawdun, Senior Lobbyist and Events Coordinator. Kansans for Life is a statewide non-profit educational organization also engaged in social action. It is dedicated to protecting and fostering the most basic human right...life itself. KFL is a state affiliate of the National Right to Life Committee.

**LET'S HELP, INC.** 200 S. Kansas Ave., Topeka, Ks, 66603; www.letshelpinc.org; 234-6208. We are a non-profit organization serving Shawnee County and surrounding areas. We provide programs and services through Comprehensive Emergency Services by offering aid with rent, utilities, and medication; Food & Clothing Banks, to include professional attire; Adult Basic Education & GED; Pre-Employment Training & Job Placement Coordination; and a Community Lunch. Let's Help collaborates with many other service agencies in the community and provides appropriate referrals. Let's Help is known as an agency that is committed to building a better community by inspiring hope, promoting self-sufficiency and breaking the cycle of poverty one person at a time.

**LIFE CHOICE MINISTRIES.** 1445 Anderson Ave., Manhattan, Ks, 66502; 785-776-9406. A ministry to women and families facing challenging pregnancies and related issues. We offer free pregnancy testing, life affirming options consultations, private adoption facilitation, abortion information, post-abortion help, friendship room (baby and maternity items), professional counseling, emotional and spiritual support, and prenatal, childbirth, and parenting education. Diapers all sizes, volunteers and financial support are needed.



**LIFELINE CHILDREN'S SERVICES.**

Jessa Swearingen-785-783-4577. jessa.swearingen@lifelinechild.org. Our wish list is: 1. VOLUNTEERS and FAMILIES. We would love help with connecting to prayer partners, adoptive families, host families and those who would love to work with families in need. 2. diapers, formula, and bottles. Our volunteers serve a lot of babies and we like to help supply them with these items when we can! To learn more about Lifeline Children's Services and all the ministries God has given us to serve in, please visit this link: www.lifelinechild.org.

**PREGNANCY CARE CENTER.** Leo Center, One Riverfront Plaza, 6th & New Hampshire, Suite 100, Lawrence, Ks, 66604; 842-6499; pcc\_lawrence@yahoo.com. Hours: 10am-5pm Mon. - Thu., 10am – 12 pm Fri. PCC is a non-profit, non-denominational, non-political outreach supported by concerned evangelical Christians throughout the Lawrence area. We are here to reach out with Jesus' love to women in our community facing unexpected or unplanned pregnancies. All Services Provided at No Charge: Pregnancy Tests, Post-Abortion Counseling, Baby and Maternity Items, Adoption Counseling, Women Caring for Women, Compassionate Listeners. We are still raising financial support, and also accept donations.

**RANDEL MINISTRIES, INC. FOOD PANTRY & FAMILY OF GOD CHURCH CLOTHING BANK** located at 1231 NW Eugene, Topeka, KS 66608, 234-1111, Open Tues & Thurs 10:30-2pm. www.FOGchurch.com or www.RandelMinistries.com, contact Lelah Randel, FOGsecretary@gmail.com.

**SALVATION ARMY.** 1320 SE 6th Ave., Topeka KS 66614; 785-233-9648. Majors Brian & Lee Ann Burkett, Corps Officers. Website: www.topeka.salvationarmy.us. Facebook: The Salvation Army Topeka

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Kansas. Emails: brian\_burkett@usc.salvationarmy.org or leeann\_burkett@usc.salvationarmy.org. The Salvation Army mission is to meet basic human needs in the name of Jesus Christ. Volunteers are needed for bellringing - signup online at www.ringbells.org. Sponsor a virtual kettle at www.onlineredkettle.org or donate at www.DonateTopeka.com. Wish list includes non-perishable food items, toys, and sports equipment.



**TOPEKA NORTH OUTREACH, INC.**  
210 NW Menninger Rd. Topeka, KS 66617. 785-286-1370. topekanorthoutreach@gmail.com, www.topekanorthoutreach.org. "Christian Churches United in Service." EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE: Limited financial help to families to assist in paying utilities, rent and prescriptions. Food baskets, Hygiene baskets, Bibles. VIP LUNCHEONS: Free lunch served to Senior Citizens every Friday at 12 noon at North Topeka Baptist Church. YOUTH PROGRAM: Operation Backpack program provides "Weekend Snack Sacks" to area students in need. Each Snack Sack contains nutritional kid-friendly and easy to prepare snacks. Scholarship assistance for school, medical or emergency expenses. CHRISTMAS PROJECT: Families adopted by our member churches through the Topeka Christmas Bureau. Also providing Holiday Food Baskets with Bibles, Blankets, Towels and Hygiene Baskets, Hats and Gloves. Toy Room with donations from Toys for Tots and American Sawdusters Club. Donations of funds, food, time and prayers are needed.

**TOPEKA RESCUE MISSION MINISTRIES.** 600 N. Kansas Ave., Topeka, Ks, 66608; 357-4285; trm@trmonline.org; www.trmonline.org; On Facebook at Topeka-Rescue-Mission-Ministries. Barry Feaker, Executive Director. The Mission provides shelter, food, clothing and other necessary services to individuals and families who are homeless or in need. This Christmas we are in most need of: new clothing (all sizes), bath/cologne gift sets, pots/pans, coffee makers, crock pots, small appliances, cooking utensils, towels,



tool sets, men's & women's gifts & accessories, educational gifts and VOLUNTEERS!

**TOPEKA YOUTH FOR CHRIST, INC.**  
2714 N. Topeka Blvd., # 103; Topeka, KS 66617; 785-232-8296; http://topeka.yfc.net; TYFC is looking for additional volunteers, prayer warriors, and donors who want to share the love of Christ with local youth. Click on the website or call the office to explore our ministry opportunities.

**TOYS FOR TOTS.** Topeka area: email Keith R. Viau at keith.viau@usmc.mil; Manhattan area: email: Lee A. Jones at lajones\_66531@yahoo.com; Lawrence area: go to www.toysfortotsdgcoks.org or email: Mary Jones at maryjones@askmcgrew.com. Marine Toys for Tots Foundation, an IRS recognized 501(c)(3) not-for-profit public charity. We collect new, unwrapped toys during October, November and December each year, and distribute those toys as Christmas gifts to needy children in the community in which the campaign is conducted.

**THE URBAN MINISTRY INSTITUTE** of Topeka. 8th and Clay. Mary Flin, Site Coordinator; 785-431-6000; maryflin@hotmail.com. Our wish list for the holiday season is for STUDENTS! TUMI-Topeka is here to come alongside the Church to equip leaders who have a passion for advancing the Kingdom of Christ, especially in the heart of the city. Second to our wish for an army of new leaders, we also welcome money for scholarships for these leaders, and are happy to provide homes for quality reference books for our library.

To update your information or to be added to this list, email [voice@cox.net](mailto:voice@cox.net)

## NEEDS

continued from page 1

Crest West, has seen a reduction of crime, homes are being rehabilitated by a coalition of partners, neighbors are beginning to know and work with each other and a sense of a healthy "community" is underway. So far in 2017 Restore Hope, Topeka Rescue Mission Ministries Anti-Human Trafficking Ministry, has received over 100 referrals of people thought to be affected by human trafficking. Some of the most vulnerable and broken individuals are being offered safety, healing and hope. Today an army of compassionate citizens continue to work together through the nine interwoven ministry divisions of TRM, as numerous lives are being changed throughout our community.

At a news conference October 24, Executive Director Barry Feaker outlined the broad spectrum of programs administered by his staff and volunteers, under the umbrella of TRM Ministries.

To maintain these programs the mission requires a total budget of \$4.5 million for 2018. Feaker said the mission will need an additional \$996,000 dollars to meet that budget. Noting that the figure equals out to \$25.50 a year for each of the 178,000 people in Shawnee County, Feaker is asking for members of the community to step up and help combat homelessness, hunger and multi-generational poverty.

Feaker said that as the need continued to increase over the last few years, they had to make a decision whether to continue building more shelters or find a way to combat these serious problems at their core. Thus new initiatives were invoked, resulting in the nine different programs as part of a long-term solution to immediate needs.

## RED KETTLE

continued from page 1

ringers, go to [topekaks.volunteerfirst.org](http://topekaks.volunteerfirst.org). Money collected during the campaign supports Salvation Army programs throughout the year, such as utility assistance, disaster relief and food programs, which have gotten a head start thanks to last year's campaign.

"We help more and more folks," said Core Officer Brian Burkett. "We're up about 15 percent for our community meal programs, every afternoon, Monday through Friday, 4 o'clock we're feeding anyone in town who's hungry. Our pantry program, the numbers have went up, but we know the people of Topeka will continue to help us meet that need."

Their goal this holiday season is to raise \$200,000, the amount they reached last year.

## SHARE WARMTH

continued from page 1

This year there is a special need for children's coats, as well as coats for larger adults.

In early December, the coats will be distributed at The Salvation Army, 1320 SE 6th Street. Those in need of a warm winter coat are asked to sign-up upon arrival and list the number of coats needed for those currently living in your household.

To volunteer, call 233-9648.

## Services Keep Rolling with New Resource Bus

Rep. Sean Tarwater joined Walmart executives and associates as they recognized Catholic Charities for its positive impact on Kansas residents.

Catholic Charities of Northeast Kansas was among the five nonprofit organizations awarded a State Giving Grant from Walmart and the Walmart Foundation during a celebratory "Day of Giving." The agency received \$40,770 to replace one of its two Mobile Resource Buses, which was beyond repair.

"At Walmart, we understand the importance of championing community organizations in any way we can," said Annmarie Browning, Walmart Vice President and Regional General Manager. "Through our partnerships with these five nonprofit organizations, we are able to support programs that address the important issue of hunger relief and assist Kansans in need across the state."

Midwest Bus Sales owner, Don Kincaid, stepped up to help Catholic Charities purchase an affordable bus based on the generous grant funding. The interior of the new Mobile Resource Bus will be altered, allowing for greater storage and distribution of food, including fresh vegetables. There will also be a larger area for a clothing closet featuring gently used children and adult wear.

"The new bus, with its spacious, more



Rep. Sean Tarwater joined Walmart executives and associates as they recognized Catholic Charities for its positive impact on Kansas residents

efficient design, will help us serve more people in outlying communities where emergency assistance is in great demand, but not easily accessible," says Denise Ogilvie, Vice President, Outreach and Grants Management.

In addition to food and clothing, a case manager is on board each Mobile Resource Bus providing services such as budget coaching, employment counseling, referrals or help filling out paperwork for other existing programs. Some direct financial assistance is available to help with rent, utility and medication costs.

Last fiscal year, Catholic Charities provided emergency assistance to families living in rural communities through its Mobile Resource Bus 4,403 times. Of those receiving services, 43 percent were children.

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## Topeka Rescue Mission

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Finances: 785-354-1744 ext. 316  
Policies, Speakers: 785-354-1744 ext. 315  
Thrift Store (1312 N. Kansas): 785-235-9094  
[www.trmonline.org](http://www.trmonline.org)



600 N. Kansas Ave.  
Topeka, KS 66608  
P.O. Box 8350  
Topeka, KS 66608



# Celebrate the Holidays in Downtown Topeka!

As we enter the Holiday season, the downtown renovations have been pretty much completed! It's a new look for Topeka! People are getting in the Christmas Spirit!

Christmas shopping in Downtown Topeka can be fun, with all the unique shops and a bit of nostalgia in the air. It might remind you of a time when shopping was more exciting, more personal, and less of a chore.

Following are some tidbits from some of your friendly downtown merchants. Why not take a trip downtown and visit them?

### A Full-Service Florist & Gift Shop

Absolute Design by Brenda, 629 S. Kansas Avenue, offers hand-selected



flowers and exquisite designs with delivery throughout the Topeka area. They have an expansive line of gifts, jewelry and home decor for all your holiday and year-round needs.

Save \$5.00 by using the coupon on this page!

You can also order or wire flowers 24 hours a day at the website: [www.absolutedesignbybrenda.com](http://www.absolutedesignbybrenda.com).

### A little bit of Heaven

Working side-by-side at Cashmere Gourmet Popcorn, Bill and Angie Anderson's goal is to create a high-quality product in every handcrafted batch of popcorn, and provide it to you with unmatched customer service. Faith and family is the driving force behind this amazing company. In fact, their family motto has always been, and will always be, "Thanks Be To God!"



Along with daughters Aleigha and Emily, they produce, package and market the popcorn. With about twenty flavors to choose from, you'll find a little bit of heaven in every bag.

serves authentic East Coast-style subs on fresh baked bread – the same recipe from 60 years ago!

You can stay up to date with Jersey Mike's latest promotions and deals, as well as get a free sub + drink on your birthday when you sign up for the



Jersey Mike's Subs Email Club. You can do that as well as place your order, at [www.jerseymikes.com](http://www.jerseymikes.com).

### Don't dread the dressing room!

Whether you shop 'till you drop or you'd rather drop than shop, choosing your next outfit should be a positive experience. Maricel Wilson, owner of Maricel's Boutique at 729½ S. Kansas Avenue, stocks her store to flatter your body and taste. You'll leave the store confident and you will look your best without the sticker shock.



"You feel most confident in your favorite outfit." Maricel Wilson says. "I want you to feel that confidence every time you set foot out the door."



Get another opinion with personalized fashion advice, and find a stylish solution for your next outing."

Maricel also stocks a variety of accessories, wall plaques and other décor items.

### Premier Flooring

Stearns Super Center, your premier flooring store, has served Topeka and the surrounding area since 1929. Current owner Steve Lowry attributes their longevity to the emphasis they place on their customer service approach. Their goal is your complete satisfaction, and it is evident in each step of the sales process, including installation and follow-up of all new flooring. They even offer a 30-day satisfaction guarantee, and will remove and replace any flooring they install within 30 days for whatever reason if the customer is not satisfied.

Flooring they sell includes carpet, vinyl, tile, hardwood and luxury vinyl. Popular brands sold at Stearns include Shaw and Mohawk. Steve



specializes in complete, customized service for everyone who comes in. Call him at 785-232-0381 or stop by for more information.

### Let your sweet tooth run wild

Hazel Hill Chocolates is located at 724 S. Kansas Avenue. Owners Nick & Terry Xidis invest their hearts and hands in fine chocolate and confectionery. Hazel Hill, Terry's grandmother, is a symbol of their dedication to a family tradition of "the best in everything they do." Nick is the third-generation chocolatier, and they use only the finest ingredients, chocolate, fresh cream and butter, to produce handmade treats that explode with flavor.

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### If you're hungry, stop in for a sub

You can't go wrong taking a lunch break at Jersey Mike's, 718 S. Kansas Avenue, with their fresh ingredients and bread baked fresh every morning.

Jersey Mike's, a fast-casual sub sandwich franchise with more than 1,000 locations open and under development nationwide, also has a long history of community involvement and support. Started at the Jersey Shore in 1956, Jersey Mike's

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# Holiday Memories, Events, & Gift Ideas!

## Check out the many Downtown Renovations and all the Holiday Events!



sweets," Terry says. "You'll never leave empty handed."

Handmade chocolate truffles, home-style fudge, crispy-creamy caramel apples and more - they fashion delightful treats for every palate. Need a gift basket, gift box, or just a

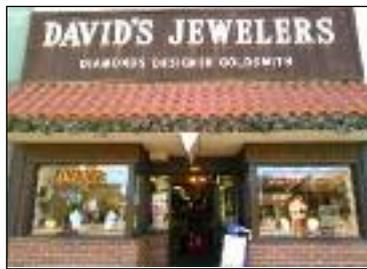


few delicious chocolates to go? They'll take care of all the packing and shipping, too

### Diamonds are Forever

With the Christmas season in full

swing, you'll find many specials and gift ideas at David's Jewelers, 623 S. Kansas - a family business that has served Topeka for four generations. Diamond rings, pendants and



earrings usually top the list but they also offer vivid colored gemstones in unique settings, watches, clocks, statues and fine crystal.

"Gifts can start at \$20.00 and go from there," said Mitzi from behind the counter at David's. "We will be glad to help you find that special gift for that special someone."

Don't stop with this incomplete list! There's plenty more to discover in Downtown Topeka this holiday season!

While you're making your way around the downtown area, check out all of the new features! And watch for these downtown events coming up:

**FIRST FRIDAYS ART WALK** - Nov. 3. Various locations Downtown and in NOTO arts district. Enjoy arts, antiques, fine crafts, and ant treatments.

**FIRST FRIDAY LIVE WITH RACHEL TAYLOR** - Nov. 3, 5-8pm, Juli's Coffee and Bistro, 110 SE 8th. Local phenom Rachel Taylor will provide live music, photography by Kirkwood Kreations & special Holiday food menu

**CHINA CIRCUS** - Nov. 3, 7:30pm, Topeka Performing Arts Center. Direct from China, one of the world's most awarded Acrobatic Troupes will be performing. (785) 234-2787 <http://www.topekaperformingarts.org/events/2017/china-circus>

**DOWNTOWN TOPEKA FARMERS MARKET** - Saturday's through Nov., 7:30am-noon, 12th & Harrison. The open-air market is full of fresh fruits and vegetables, herbs, arts & crafts, flower, home-baked goods, more.



**GINGERBREAD HOMES FOR THE HOLIDAYS** - Nov 10 - 9am-7pm; Nov 11 - 9am-5pm.

TPAC, 214 SE 8th Ave. The Graham Cracker Junction - Families, students, youth groups and scout troops enter the Junction to build their own houses out of graham crackers, icing and candy; Holiday Boutique - crafts, gifts and more; Sweet Tooth Lane - delicious fresh baked goods and homemade candy. Facepainting. Adm. \$3. 785-234-2787



**SALUTE OUR HEROES VETERANS FESTIVAL, PARADE & CAR SHOW** - Nov. 11, 10am-5pm Kansas State Capitol. Parade at 11am; Staging begins at 9am. Bike Show, Food Trucks and Kids Fest! Benefitting the Military Veteran Project. Free 785-409-1310.

**TOWER & TOUGH TOWER RUN** - Nov. 11, 8-11am, 534 S Kansas - start in the lobby, finish at Top of Tower Club - run 16 flights of stairs to the top, or add some additional pain with basement sprint, or parking garage run before you finish with 16 flight climb. For info: 234-9336

**CASTING CROWNS** - Nov. 12, 7pm, TPAC. With Zach Williams. [tpactix.org](http://tpactix.org)

**HEALTH AND WELLNESS FAIR** - Nov. 15, 10am-6:30pm, 214 SE 8th Ave. Free health screenings by Gil Carter Initiative Inc. Food

and fun activities for the entire family!

**RUN 4 A REASON** - Nov. 18, 9am, 225 S W 12th St. A 5K and a 10K course. Proceeds benefit Girls on the Run, a YWCA program that gives girls in 3rd through 8th grade an after-school program with a curriculum that inspires them to define their lives on their own terms. [kruh@ywcaneks.org](mailto:kruh@ywcaneks.org).

**THE CHOCOLATE NUTCRACKER MIDWEST**, Nov. 25 at 7pm and Nov.26 at 3pm; TPAC. Tickets available at the TPAC box office or Ticketmaster.com. For info: 785-383-9373 or 785-580-9707

**ANNUAL RESCUE RUN** - Nov. 25, 5-6pm, 534 S. Downtown Topeka. Proceeds benefiting the Topeka Rescue Mission Ministries. Register at [trmonline.org/rescueerun/](http://trmonline.org/rescueerun/). Volunteers needed: email [volunteer@trmonline.org](mailto:volunteer@trmonline.org) or call 354-1744x393

**MIRACLE ON KANSAS AVENUE PARADE** - Nov. 25, 5-8pm - Community Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony, Parade and more. For info: [downtowntopekainc.com](http://downtowntopekainc.com)

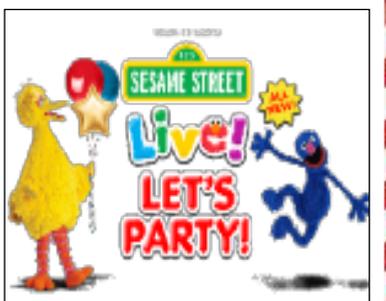


**GATLIN BROTHERS CHRISTMAS SHOW WITH BILLY DEAN** - Nov. 29, 7:30pm, TPAC. 785-234-2787

**WINTERFEST TOPEKA 2017** - Dec. 2, 10am-2pm, Downtown. Kansas Avenue comes alive with winter holiday fun for this special event. Find Santa and other holiday characters, take a horse and carriage ride, take a selfie with a reindeer, enjoy carolers and get some holiday shopping done at some of your favorite Downtown Topeka businesses.

**SESAME STREET LIVE! LET'S PARTY!** - Dec. 1, 2pm & 6pm at TPAC

**THE NUTCRACKER - PRESENTED BY KANSAS BALLET** - Dec. 8: 8pm; Dec. 10: 2pm & 8pm; Dec. 11: 2pm, TPAC. Tickets available through TPAC, Ticketmaster or at Barbara's Conservatory of Dance.



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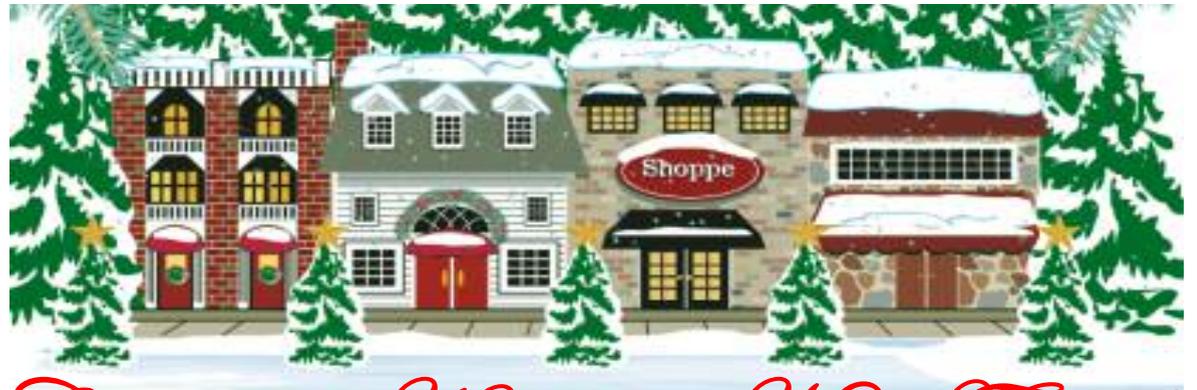
David's is open seven days a week. Holiday Hours expand as Christmas approaches. Gift certificates & free gift wrap available.  
Call for information at 785-234-4808 or 785-234-3771  
**(785) 234-4808 • [davidsjewelerstopekaks.com](http://davidsjewelerstopekaks.com)**

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*Celebrate the Holidays in North Topeka!*

**Lots going on in North Topeka during Holidays**

The North Topeka area has a lot going on this time of year! Of course, NOTO Arts District has been a hub of activity for a while now, but there are also many other events going on north of the river:



best Topeka has to offer. We'll also have our signature free pampering services onsite! Along with a CASH bar.

Of course, there is also the monthly NOTO Market on First Friday with arts, antiques, crafts and flea market items, as well as entertainment.

The annual Veterans Day Celebration is on Nov. 11, 2-3:00 pm, at Great Overland Station. Honor the service of the men and women of America's Armed Forces. The ceremonies will take place outside on the All Veterans Memorial and Corridor of Flags.

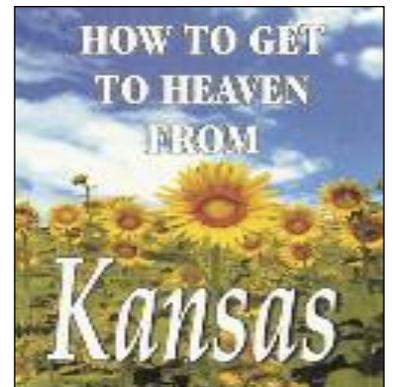
ALL ABOUT THE KAW: A SPEAKERS SERIES - Nov. 8, 12-1pm. "Along the Kaw: A Journey Down the Kansas River", Craig Thompson. This speakers series complements our current exhibit The Kaw: A Prairie River Shapes a State and is FREE to members. Non-members pay regular admission. Bottled water available but no food—bring your own lunch if you wish. Craig began exploring Kansas while working for the Kansas Department of Health and Environment. During the next several years, he photographed the Kansas River and published a book titled Along the Kaw: A Journey Down the Kansas River. For info, hours: [greatoverlandstation.com](http://greatoverlandstation.com)

SECOND HAND TREASURES SALE - Nov. 11, 7am-4pm, Grantville UMC, 3724 South St., Grantville. Clothing for all ages, books, music, movies, kitchen items, furniture items, games and toys for sale. Food will be served. 246-3621

FALL INTO FITNESS 5K RUN/WALK - Nov. 11, 8:30am. Seaman High School. For info: [seamanschools.org](http://seamanschools.org)

VETERAN'S DAY CELEBRATION - Nov. 11, Great Overland Station. 232-5533

SPOIL ME SILLY - Nov. 30, 6pm, The Brownstone, 4020 NW 25th St. Free Admission, Topeka Ladies - amazing pop up boutiques and vendors showcasing the



More important than living in KANSAS is where you will live forever. Just as you would look at a map of KANSAS to find your way, so you must look at the Bible to find your way to heaven. The Bible says, "Narrow is the way, which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it." (Matt. 7:14). Jesus said, "I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me." (Jn. 14:6). Jesus is the only way to Heaven and He gave these directions on getting there.

1. Realize you are a sinner. Everyone starts the same place spiritually. "For all have sinned and come short of the glory of god." (Rom. 3:23). Sin's penalty keeps you out of Heaven and condemns you to Hell, separating you from God. Romans 6:23 says, "The wages of sin is death." Sin brings both physical & spiritual death. "And death and hell were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death." (Rev. 20:14).

2. Realize Jesus paid the penalty. Jesus Christ's death, burial, and resurrection provided a way for you to go to heaven and restore your relationship with God. "But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us." (Rom. 5:8). Since Jesus, God's Son, was the only One who could pay for our sin, He is the only Way to Heaven.

3. Repent of your sin and receive Jesus as your Savior. In order to go to Heaven from KANSAS, or anywhere else, you must accept Christ by calling on Him in prayer. He tells us in Romans 10:13, "For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved." Use the following prayer, or one similar to it, to receive Him now:

Dear Lord Jesus, I know I am a sinner. I believe that you died and rose again for me. Please forgive me of my sin, become Lord of my life, and take me to heaven when I die. I am trusting you completely, and in nothing I can do. Thank you Jesus! Amen.

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MTWF 9am - 6pm  
Th 9am - 12pm

HEALTH CARE FOR THE ENTIRE FAMILY

**North 75 Barbershop**



**Ron & Lacy**  
Tue-Fri 8-5:30  
Sat 8-1  
233-4281

1904 N Central Avenue

**IN GOD WE TRUST**



**FOR JESUS WE RIDE**

**Christian Cavalry M/M**

**Biker Sunday...Every Sunday!**  
**Christian Cavalry Ministries Int.**  
c/o Seaman Baptist Church  
2015 NW Buchanan, Topeka, KS 66608  
785-224-5419  
[www.church4bikers.org](http://www.church4bikers.org)

Sunday School 9:30 AM  
Sunday Service 10:45 AM  
Wednesday Prayer & Bible Study 7:00 PM  
*All are welcome, casual dress ok!*

The Area's Most Complete Guide to the Family-Friendly Events You Want to See!

# the events calendar

**FREE LISTINGS! E-mail your events to: [Voice@cox.net](mailto:Voice@cox.net); mail to Metro Voice, P.O. 5724, Topeka, KS 66605; fax to 785-235-3340 or enter online at [metrovoicenews.com](http://metrovoicenews.com)**

## CONCERTS

**TOPEKA ACOUSTIC MUSIC JAM** - First Sat. of ea. month, 3-5pm, Potwin Presbyterian Church (enter south door), 400 S.W. Washburn. Information: 286-0227 or [hagen1525@gmail.com](mailto:hagen1525@gmail.com).

**THE BERRYTON PICKERS** - First Sat. of ea. month, 7-9pm, Berryton Baptist Church. Bring snacks, have fun!

**FIRST FRIDAY LIVE WITH RACHEL TAYLOR** - Nov. 3, 5-8pm, Juli's Coffee and Bistro, 110 SE 8th. Local phenom Rachel Taylor will provide live music, photography by Kirkwood Kreation & special Holiday food menu for the evening.

**ELMONT OPRY** - Nov. 10 at 7pm; and Nov. 11 at 1pm, Elmont UMC, 6635 NW Church Ln. With Special Guest Charlie Heavin. Doors open 90 minutes early for lunch or dinner. Tickets \$10 - call John at 246-0156.

**CASTING CROWNS** - Nov. 12, 7pm, TPAC. With Zach Williams. [tpactix.org](http://tpactix.org)

**GATLIN BROTHERS CHRISTMAS SHOW WITH BILLY DEAN** - Nov. 29, 7:30pm, TPAC. 785-234-2787

## SPECIAL CHURCH EVENTS

**SENIOR FIT & FUN PROGRAM** - every Mon., Wed., & Fri., 1:30pm, Rolling Hills Christian Church, 4530 NW Hiawatha Place (US Hwy 75 & NW 46th St.) 785-286-0601 or [office@rhctopeka.org](mailto:office@rhctopeka.org)

**SPIRITUAL PAUSE** - Every Wed., 12-12:30pm, Carole Chapel at Washburn Univ. Informal worship service. 785-233-1844

**HARVESTER'S PROGRAM FOR SENIOR CITIZENS** - every second Sat., takes place at Christian Lord Ministries, 2421 SE California. Call 266-4979.

**BINGO AT FAIRLAWN HEIGHTS ASSISTED LIVING** - 3pm, 1st Sat. of ea. month. Facilitator: Pastor Carole

**FIRST SATURDAY BREAKFAST BUFFET** - First Saturday of every month, 7:30-10am. Shawnee Heights United

Methodist Church. Free will offering.

**FREE WEEKLY COMMUNITY PANCAKE BREAKFAST** - Sundays at 10am sharp, at Oakland Church of the Nazarene. 900 block of NE Oakland, followed by church services at 10:45am with Pastor John Menkveld - which is in turn followed at noon by The Hope House FREE Community Food & Clothing Banks.

**FIRST WEDNESDAY WESLEY CAFE** - First Wed., 6:15pm, Susanna Wesley UMC, 7433 SW 29th. A worship service will follow at 7:00. 785-478-3697 or [www.swumc.org/wesley-cafe-sign-up1.html](http://www.swumc.org/wesley-cafe-sign-up1.html)

**PUMPKIN PATCH** - Oct. 1 - Nov. 1, Wanamaker Woods Church of the Nazarene, 3501 SW Wanamaker Rd, 785-273-2248 Family fun activities.

**REV ON THE ROAD** - Oct. 27, 5:30-8:30pm, Oct. 28, 8:30am-12pm. Topeka Bible Church, 1135 SW College Ave. A two-day outreach and wellness event designed to restore people's hope, faith and love. participants will experience contagious joy and freedom and cutting-edge fitness that meets people where they are at. This event is for every body shape and size but nobody leaves the same. For info: [eventbrite.com/e/rev-on-the-road-kansas-tickets-36244868377](http://eventbrite.com/e/rev-on-the-road-kansas-tickets-36244868377)

**HARVEST FESTIVAL & TRUNK OR TREAT** - Oct. 27, 6:30-8pm, Susanna Wesley UMC, 7433 SW 29th. Children are encouraged to wear costumes and bring a container for goodies. Hotdogs, chips, a drink and dessert provided. We will have lots of fun carnival games, crafts, and puppets skits inside the church from 6:30-7:30 pm, and a Trunk-or-Treat outside at 7:30 pm.

**TRUNK OR TREAT** - Oct. 28, 5-7:30pm. Fairlawn Church-The Nazarene, 730 SW Fairlawn. Free Fun for the whole family: candy games, music, fun

**CARNIVAL AND TRUNK & TREAT** - Oct. 28, 2pm & 6:30pm, Lighthouse Bible Church, 4110 NW 62nd St. Carnival 2-47pm, Trunk & Treat 6:30pm 785-246-0138

**TRUNK & TREAT** - Oct. 28, 4-6pm, Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, 3625 SW Wanamaker. 271-0808

**TRUNK & TREAT**, Oct. 31, 5-8pm, Lakeview Nazarene, 29th & Croco. 266.3247

**TRUNK OR TREAT** - Oct. 31, 6:30-8pm. East Side Baptist, 4425 SE 29th St. Candy, popcorn, hotdogs, and drinks.

**TRUNKS & TREATS** - Oct. 31, 5:30-7:30pm, Rolling Hills Christian Church, 4530 NW Hiawatha Place (US Hwy 75 & NW 46th St.) Candy, snacks & fun

**REFORMATION 500 WORSHIP SERVICE** - Oct. 29, 10:30-12pm. TPAC. The LCMS churches of Topeka and Lawrence will be gathering together as one to hold a joint service on Reformation Sunday. KS District President Peter Lange will preach, three bell choirs will ring, and a mass choir will lead the singing

**SING PRAISE** - Oct. 29, 4pm. Grace Cathedral, 701 SW 8th Ave. The Order of Sung Vespers. For info: 235-3457

**REFORMATION OCTOBERFEST** - Oct. 31, 5:30, St. John Lutheran Church, 9th & Fillmore. Deutsche Messe Meal 5:30-6:45; German Mass Worship Service at 7pm.

**'FIRST FRIDAY EXPLOSION!'** - Nov. 3, 7pm, Faith Temple Church, 1162 SW Lincoln St. Testimonies, praise and worship, good fellowship. Two guest speakers. 235-1834.

**HOLIDAY CRAFT SALE** - Nov. 5, 9am-3pm & Nov. 5, 11am-1:30pm. Lowman United Methodist Church, 4101 SW 15th Street

**COMEDY CAFE** - Nov. 10, 6:30-8:45pm, Fellowship Bible Church, 10th & Urish. An evening of fun, food (delectable desserts) and fellowship while learning more about the Youth for Christ ministry outreach and its impact here in Topeka. Featuring the comedy of Jarell Roach. Make reservations or sponsor a table at [www.topekayfc.org/comedycafe/](http://www.topekayfc.org/comedycafe/) or call 785-232-8296.

**SECOND HAND TREASURES SALE** - Nov. 11, 7am-4pm, Grantville UMC, 3724 South St., Grantville. Clothing for all ages, books, music, movies, kitchen items, furniture items, games and toys for sale. Food will be served. 246-3621

**COMMUNITY DINNER** - Dec. 6, 5 to 6:30 pm, Tecumseh UMC. Lasagna, vegetable, French bread and more. \$6

## SEMINARS & CONFERENCES

**MEDICARE MONDAYS** - First Mon. of ea. month, 1-3pm. Topeka/Sh. Co. Public Library (Menninger Rm 206), 1515 SW 10th. Jayhawk Area Agency on Aging and Senior Health Insurance Counseling for Kansas offers Senior health insurance counseling. For info: 580-4545 or [nhonl@tsctl.org](mailto:nhonl@tsctl.org)

**MEDICARE EDUCATIONAL SEMINAR** - Oct. 31, Nov. 2, 9 & 14 at 2pm. Learn the basics of Medicare and all its options. Seminars are designed for those becoming eligible for Medicare and those considering making a change. Seminar will be held at the Heart Center at 929 SW Mulvane. For info or to sign up: [centuryinsuranceagencyks.com](http://centuryinsuranceagencyks.com) or 270-4593 or [info@century-health.com](mailto:info@century-health.com). Snacks & beverages provided.

**SPECIAL NEEDS PLANNING IN A WORLD OF MEDICAID UNCERTAINTY** - Nov. 1, 6pm, Valeo Behavioral Health Care, 330 SW Oakley Ave. Learn the basics of special needs trusts and related resources, when/why they are useful, particularly in this time of uncertainty about public benefits. Presented by Emily A. Donaldson. Emily has been practicing in the areas of elder law and estate planning for over 15 years. She has counseled numerous individuals and families with special needs children through the complex legal and financial issues raised by the impairments. She is an adjunct professor at Washburn University School of Law and a frequent author and speaker on issues affecting the aged and individuals with disabilities. This presentation is free and open to the public. For more information contact Cara Weeks at 785-783-7558, [cweeks@valeotopeka.org](mailto:cweeks@valeotopeka.org).

**MEDICARE EDUCATIONAL SEMINAR** - Nov. 7, 6:30pm. Learn the basics of Medicare and all its options. Seminars are designed for those becoming eligible for Medicare and those considering making a change. Seminar will be held at Cotton O'Neil North at 4505 NW Fielding. For info or to sign up: [centuryinsuranceagencyks.com](http://centuryinsuranceagencyks.com) or 270-4593 or [info@century-health.com](mailto:info@century-health.com). Snacks & beverages provided.

## FAMILY-FRIENDLY EVENTS

**SHEPHERDS CENTER PICKLEBALL GROUP** - plays Mon. & Wed. Mon. at Countryside UMC, 32nd & Burlingame, from 3-5. Park on the NORTH side & use the furthest WEST door. Follow the hallway to gym. On Wed. at First Baptist, 30th & MacVicar, from 1-3. Park on the WEST side. Gym is right inside the doors.

**SAFE STREETS COALITION MEETING** - First Wed. of the month, 11:45am-1pm. Great Overland Station. For info:

266-4606 or [jwilson@safeststreets.org](mailto:jwilson@safeststreets.org)

**SHAWNEE SWINGERS SQUARE DANCE LESSONS** - Wednesday's, 7pm, Croco Hall, 6115 SE Hwy 40, Tecumseh. Starting Sept. 20. Call 785-817-3071.

**COUNTRY AND BALLROOM DANCING** - Thursdays 6-9pm. Croco Hall. Info: Edwina 379-9538 or 478-4760.

**SHEPHERDS CENTER LINE DANCING GROUP** - meets 2nd & 4th Thur, 2-4 at First UMC, 6th & Topeka. Park on the WEST side & use the WEST door. Immediately inside, turn left & walk the ramp to the library, then left to elevator. Push [B] for fellowship hall.

**SHEPHERDS CENTER HHHS WALKING GROUP** - meets 2nd & 4th Thur, 9:30-11 at HHHS, 21st & Belle. Entrance for walkers is on WEST side. People who would like to walk a shelter dog call Kelsey Scrinopskie, 233-7325.

**NOTO MARKET ON FIRST FRIDAYS** - NOTO arts district. Arts, antiques, fine crafts, flea market items.

**DOWNTOWN TOPEKA FARMERS MARKET** - Saturday's through Nov., 7:30am-noon, 12th & Harrison. The open-air market is full of fresh fruits and vegetables, herbs, arts & crafts, flower, home-baked goods, more.

**SWAP MEET AT PREMIERE FARM & HOME** - last Sat. of every month thru Oct., 900 SW University Blvd, 7 am to noon. Laying hens, pullets, baby chicks, guineas, ducks, geese, and more. No fee to set up. No goats.

**SAVING DEATH ROW DOGS ADOPTION BOOTH** - Every Sat., 11am - 2pm, Petco, 1930 SW Wanamaker. Some Sat. adoption booths are held at PetSmart, 2020 SW Westport Dr. Updates at [savingdeathrowdogs.com](http://savingdeathrowdogs.com)

**TOPEKA FOLK DANCERS CLASSES** - Sundays, 2-4pm, 2637 SE 41st St. Dances from 20 countries. No partners or experience necessary. No fee. 215-0968.

**HAUNTED WOODS** - Oct. every Fri. & Sat. night, 8-11pm, Forest Park, 3158 SE 10th St. We've partnered with the Boy Scouts of America and the Army to produce "Topeka Haunted Woods". This event includes a guided 1/2 mile hike through the old growth forest, 3 escape rooms designed by Keyundrum, a Zombie Laser Tag adventure, and food trucks. 234-8024 [TopekaHauntedWoods.com](http://TopekaHauntedWoods.com)

**KANSAS CITY RENAISSANCE FESTIVAL** - Sep. 2 - Oct. 15, 10am-7pm; Weekends only plus Columbus Day and Labor Day. 628 N 126th St., Bonner Springs, KS. [www.KCRenFest.com](http://www.KCRenFest.com). 800-373-0357.

**GARY'S PUMPKIN PATCH & FALL FESTIVAL** - Sept. 22-Oct. 29, Fri. - Sat. - Sun., 5991 17th St. Grantville, KS. 8 Acre Corn Maize, Pig Races, Corn Pit, 2 Jumping Pillows, Giant Slides, Animals, and more. Home Made Curly Fries, Hamburgers, Brats, Turkey Legs, Apple Cider Slushy and more. Admission \$12.95; Season Pass - \$27.95 at [garysberries.com](http://garysberries.com)

**HI-CREST TRUNK OR TREAT** - Oct. 27, 6:30pm-8pm, Avondale East, 455 SE Golf Park Blvd. Candy, games,

pumpkin patch, facepainting, inflatables, food & music.

**TOPEKA ATA HAUNTED HOUSE/TRUNK OR TREAT** - Oct. 28, 11-2pm. Topeka ATA. \$2 for one ticket, or \$5 for three. Free to all current taekwondo students. 228-1617

**GHOULS & GOBLINS** - Oct. 30, 5:50pm, Golden Corral Steakhouse, 1601 SW Wanamaker. Youth Court officers will be the servers that evening and all tips go to Topeka Youth Project. Silent auction items for all ages. 785-273-4141. [www.topekayouthproject.org](http://www.topekayouthproject.org) E-mail [wong@typ.kscomail.com](mailto:wong@typ.kscomail.com)

**130 CHRISTMAS TREES & ORNAMENT DISPLAY** - Nov. 1-Jan. 1, 10am-4pm Mon-Sat. & 1-5pm Sun. at Territorial Capital Museum, 640 E. Woodson, Leocompton. Over 130 Christmas Trees decorated in antique, Victorian, vintage and theme décor - including turn of the century and WW II era decorations, a barb-wire tree and feather trees. Also tour Constitution Hall, a National Landmark. Leocompton is the "Birthplace of the Civil War, Where Slavery Began to Die." Leocompton was recently named one of the "Best Small Towns in Kansas by Kansas Magazine readers. 785-887-6148. [leocomptonkansas.com](http://leocomptonkansas.com)

**2017 GOVERNOR'S CONFERENCE** - Nov. 1-3, 12pm. Capitol Plaza Hotel. Conference for the Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect. For registration or info: [bit.do/govconfregister](http://bit.do/govconfregister)

**ADOPT A TRAIL THURSDAY NIGHT FUN RUN** - Nov. 2, 6-8pm. Garry Gribble's Running Sports. This run/walk is to collect litter on the trails. Trash bags will be provided. Snacks and water provided afterwards.

**HOLIDAY FOOD AND GIFT MART** - Nov. 4-5, Expoentre. Hundreds of merchants plus entertainment

**CHINA CIRCUS** - Nov. 3, 7:30pm, Topeka Performing Arts Center. Direct from China, one of the world's most awarded Acrobatic Troupes will be performing. (785) 234-2787

[www.topekaperformingarts.org/events/2017/china-circus](http://www.topekaperformingarts.org/events/2017/china-circus)

**TAILS ON THE TRAIL 5K Run/Walk** - Nov. 4. Shawnee North Community Center, 300 NE 43rd St. 286-0676

**OPEN HOUSE**, Nov. 5, 2-4pm, Topeka Lutheran School, 701 SW Roosevelt St. Stop by for a tour of the school and to meet TLS faculty and staff members. Learn more about the benefits of your child attending TLS

**RADIANCE MEDICAL SPA HOLIDAY EVENT** - Nov. 6, 5-7pm. Everyone welcome! There will be light snacks, beverages, treatment demonstrations, expert skin consultations, and discount offers

**ALL ABOUT THE KAW: A SPEAKERS SERIES** - Nov. 8, 12-1pm. "Along the Kaw: A Journey Down the Kansas River", Craig Thompson. This speakers series complements our current exhibit The Kaw: A Prairie River Shapes a State and is FREE to members. Non-members pay regular admission. Bottled water available but no food—bring your own lunch if you wish. Craig began

## All About The Kaw: A Speakers Series

This speakers series complements our current exhibit *The Kaw: A Prairie River Shapes a State* and is FREE to members. Non-members pay regular admission. Bottled water available but no food—bring your own lunch if you wish.



**November 8, 12-1pm "Along the Kaw: A Journey Down the Kansas River", Craig Thompson.** Craig earned an Environmental Studies degree from the University of Kansas. Craig began exploring Kansas while working for the Kansas Department of Health and Environment. During the next several years, he photographed the Kansas River and published a book titled *Along the Kaw: A Journey Down the Kansas River*.

For more info, hours & admission: [www.greatoverlandstation.com](http://www.greatoverlandstation.com)  
701 N. Kansas Avenue • Topeka, KS 66608 • 785-232-5533

**C5 Alive** *Developing and Uniting Christian Leadership*  
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Membership open to all Christian businesses, non-profits, churches & individuals!  
Luncheons & Tradeshows & some other events open to the general public!

**C5Alive POWER Luncheons are held 2nd Thur. each mo.**

**Nov. 9, 11:30-1 - at Aldersgate Village**  
**"C5 POWER Luncheon"**  
Featured Speaker:  
**Daren Busenitz of World Impact**  
RSVP to [info@C5Alive.org](mailto:info@C5Alive.org) or 785-840-6399

• Dec. 14, 11:30-1, Christmas Luncheon at Fairlawn Plaza -  
Great Food, Christmas Music & Fun!  
• Jan. 11, 11:30-1, POWER Luncheon featuring Gary  
Tenpenney, CBMC Leadership Institute

For info: [www.C5Alive.org](http://www.C5Alive.org) or [Facebook.com/C5Alive](https://www.facebook.com/C5Alive)

**COME TO THE**  
**ELMONT OPRY**

Two Great Shows!

Fri, Nov. 10, 7 pm  
& Sat. Nov. 11 at 1 pm

**Great Country Music by all your favorites!**

Doors open 90 minutes early for lunch or dinner!  
Elmont Methodist Church • 6635 NW Church Ln.  
(1 mile East of North Highway 75 on NW 62nd St.)

Just \$10/ticket! Call John at 246-0156 for reservations

**All leaders and concerned citizens are invited!**

**Nov. 16, 2017**  
**11:30am-1pm**

Please join us in honoring these women:  
• Nell Ritchey, Topeka • Glenda DuBoise, Topeka  
• The Benedictine Sisters of Mount St. Scholastica, Atchison

World Impact Topeka is offering a Luncheon for "Women Who've Changed the Heart of the City" at the Capitol Plaza Hotel Emerald Ballroom, an exciting event that will honor women who've had significant impact in our communities, and empower incarcerated women for significant futures. Funds raised will be used for classes offered at Topeka Correctional Facility.

[www.womenwhovechanged-topekaluncheon.eventbrite.org](http://www.womenwhovechanged-topekaluncheon.eventbrite.org)

For information: Mary Fliin at 431-6000  
or [maryfllin@worldimpact.org](mailto:maryfllin@worldimpact.org)

exploring Kansas while working for the Kansas Department of Health and Environment. During the next several years, he photographed the Kansas River and published a book titled *Along the Kaw: A Journey Down the Kansas River*. For info, hours: greatoverland-station.com

**BLIZZARD BASH DEMOLITION DERBY** – Nov. 9-12. Kansas Expocentre.

**GINGERBREAD HOMES FOR THE HOLIDAYS** – Nov. 10-9am-7pm; Nov. 11-9am-5pm. TPAC, 214 SE 8th Ave. The Graham Cracker Junction – Families, students, youth groups and scout troops enter the Junction to build their own houses out of graham crackers, icing and candy; Holiday Boutique – crafts, gifts and more; Sweet Tooth Lane – delicious fresh baked goods and homemade candy. Facepainting. Adm. \$3. 234-2787

**PEACE GARDEN DEDICATION** – Nov. 10, 10am, at the Auburn Cemetery, 89th and Hoch Road, west of Auburn. There will be a flag ceremony and local dignitaries from Shawnee County, Auburn Township, and the Auburn Lions Club will speak briefly. The public and media are invited to attend; donuts and coffee will be served. The Peace Garden honors the military, law enforcement and firefighting personnel who protect our freedoms of country, community and home. It offers a quiet place for reflection, overlooking the cemetery and landscape where buffalo graze.

**COMEDY CAFE** – Nov. 10, 6:30-8:45pm, Fellowship Bible Church, 10th & Urish. An evening of fun, food (delectable desserts) and fellowship while learning more about the Youth for Christ ministry outreach and its impact here in Topeka. Featuring the comedy of Jarell Roach. Make reservations or sponsor a table at [www.topekaycf.org/comedycafe/](http://www.topekaycf.org/comedycafe/) or call 232-8296.

**SUPERHERO RUN, WALK & CRAWL ON VETERANS DAY** – Nov. 11, 9am, 900 Block S Kansas Ave. Registration 7-9am. Adult Start Time: 9:30 a.m. 4 Laps around Capitol with epic finish. Super Hero Mini Run, Walk, crawl Start Time: 10 a.m. Any age can participate in mini hero run, walk and crawl – strollers & dogs OK

**SALUTE OUR HEROES VETERANS FESTIVAL, PARADE & CAR SHOW** – Nov. 11, 10am-5pm Kansas State Capitol. Parade at 11am; Staging begins at 9am. Bike Show, Food Truck Festival and Kids Fest! Benefitting the Military Veteran Project. Free event. 785-409-1310. [militaryveteranproject.org/topeka-veterans-parade.html](http://militaryveteranproject.org/topeka-veterans-parade.html). contact@militaryveteranproject.org

**TOWER & TOUGH TOWER RUN** – Nov. 11, 8-11am, 534 S Kansas – start in the lobby, finish at Top of Tower Club – run 16 flights of stairs to the top, or add some additional pain with basement sprint, or parking garage run before you finish with 16 flight climb. For info: 234-9336

**HOWLIDAY BAZAAR** – Nov. 11, 9am-3pm. Helping Hands Humane Society, 5720 SW 21st Street. Browse for Christmas gifts for your pets, and shop for yourself. 233-7325

**FALL INTO FITNESS 5K RUN/WALK** – Nov. 11, 8:30am. Seaman High School. For info: [seamanschools.org](http://seamanschools.org)

**VETERAN'S DAY CELEBRATION** – Nov. 11, Great Overland Station. 232-5533

**HEALTH AND WELLNESS FAIR** – Nov. 15, 10am-6:30pm, 214 SE 8th Ave. Free health screenings by Gil Carter Initiative Inc. Food and fun activities for the entire family!

**WOMEN WHO'VE CHANGED THE HEART OF THE CITY TOPEKA LUNCHEON** – Nov. 16, 11:30am, Capitol Plaza Hotel. World Impact Topeka invites you to be part of this event that will honor women who've had significant impact in our communities, and empower incarcerated women for significant futures. We will also introduce you to our incarceration to Incorporation initiative, and the four-year, seminary level leadership training program developed by World Impact's The Urban Ministry Institute (TUMI), which will help equip incarcerated women for leadership. Mary Flin 431-6000, [maryflin@worldimpact.org](mailto:maryflin@worldimpact.org)

**WINTER WONDERLAND WALK-THRU NIGHT** – Nov. 17, 6-8pm. Lake Shawnee. View dazzling holiday light displays, featuring one million lights, while winding through a 2.5-mile scenic drive. A suggested donation of \$2 per person, or \$1 per person with a canned food item to benefit Project Topeka. 785.232.0597

**PANCAKE FEED/SILENT AUCTION** – Nov. 18, 7am, Christ the King Church, 5973 W 25th. Pancake Feed and Silent Auction with Bake Sale - all benefiting the children and youth of our community. 249-9720. [topekakiwanisclub.org/](http://topekakiwanisclub.org/)

**FESTIVAL OF CRAFTS** – Nov. 17, 9-6 and Nov. 18, 9-3, Oakland Community Center, 801 NE Poplar. Shawnee North Community Center's Festival of Crafts and Garfield's Holiday Bazaar events have combined in to ONE! For vendor information contact, 785-286-0676

**ANNUAL BAZAAR & DINNER** – Nov. 18, 2-7pm, University UMC, 17th & College. Craft items, baked goods, quilt raffle. Childrens workshop 3-5pm. Chicken & Noodle dinner 5-6:30pm. 235-2331

**WINTER WONDERLAND 5K** – Nov. 18, 5:30-8pm. Lake Shawnee Reynolds Lodge. Presented by TARC. Costumes encouraged. Registration begins at 3:30. For info: 235-2295. [www.sunflowerstategames.com/winterwonderland](http://www.sunflowerstategames.com/winterwonderland)

**RUN 4 A REASON** – Nov. 18, 9am, 225 S W 12th St. A 5K and a 10K course. Proceeds benefit Girls on the Run, a YWCA program that gives girls in 3rd through 8th grade an after-school program with a curriculum that inspires them to define their lives on their own terms. [kruch@ywcaneks.org](http://kruch@ywcaneks.org).

**TARC'S WINTER WONDERLAND** – Nov. 22-Dec. 31, 6-10pm. Lake Shawnee. View dazzling holiday light displays, featuring one million lights, while winding through a 2-mile scenic drive. Advanced Tickets are available: TARC, 2701 SW Randolph, for \$7.00. \$10.00 at the gate suggested donation. 785.506-8720

**COMMUNITY THANKSGIVING DINNER** – Nov. 23, 12-3pm, AG HALL. A warm and inviting meal is provided to residents of Topeka & surrounding areas. Awards ceremony at 11 am. For delivery & info: 295-3889

**THE CHOCOLATE NUTCRACKER MIDWEST**, Nov. 25 at 7pm and Nov.26 at 3pm; TPAC. Tickets available at the TPAC box office or Ticketmaster.com. For info: 785-383-9373 or 785-580-9707

**ANNUAL RESCUE RUN** – Nov. 25, 5-6pm, 534 S. Downtown Topeka. Proceeds benefiting the Topeka Rescue Mission Ministries. Register at [trmonline.org/rescuerun/](http://trmonline.org/rescuerun/). Volunteers needed: email [volunteer@trmonline.org](mailto:volunteer@trmonline.org) or call 354-1744x393

**MIRACLE ON KANSAS AVENUE PARADE** – Nov. 25, 5-8pm – Community Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony, Parade and more. For info: [downtowntopekainc.com](http://downtowntopekainc.com)

**HOLIDAY OPEN HOUSE** – Nov. 30, 4:30pm, 4101 SW Gage Center Dr. Edward Jones Financial Advisor Bridget Broderick invites you to a celebration of clients, friends, and community. Refreshments and light snacks provided. Collecting toys for the Toys for Tots program. Help needy children in the area by bringing a new, unwrapped toy.

**SPOIL ME SILLY** – Nov. 30, 6pm, The Brownstone, 4020 NW 25th St. Free Admission, Topeka Ladies – amazing pop up boutiques and vendors showcasing the best Topeka has to offer. We'll also have our signature free pampering services onsite! CASH bar.

**THIRSTY THURSDAY FUN RUN** – Nov. 30, 6-8pm, Garry Gribble's Running Sports. 3-6 miles. Snack, water, and beer available after. Free event.

**WINTERFEST TOPEKA 2017** – Dec. 2, 10am-2pm, Downtown. Kansas Avenue comes alive with winter holiday fun for this special event. Find Santa and other holiday characters, take a horse and carriage ride, take a selfie with a reindeer, enjoy carolers and get some holiday shopping done at some of your favorite Downtown Topeka businesses.

**KANSA PRAIRIE QUILT SHOW** – Dec. 2, 9am-2pm, Oskaloosa Middle School, Oskaloosa, Ks. Quilt Club show in conjunction with a holiday open house & craft & vendor show & boutique for holiday shopping. In addition, "No Two Alike" is an opportunity quilt that will be given away that day. It has dresdens plates & tating appliques on a whole cloth quilt in the form of snowflakes. Show is free and chances on the quilt are available @ the door. For questions call 331-7017.

**RED STOCKING BREAKFAST** – Dec. 9, 7:30 - 10:30am, Carlos O'Kelly's Mexican Café. Cost is \$15 in advance & \$18 at the door. Children 10 & under eat free. Benefits KCSL's child abuse prevention programs & services.

**AUBURN NIGHT OUT SHOPPING SPREE** – Dec. 7, 5:30-8pm at Auburn Civic Center, 1020 N. Washington

**TBC CHRISTMAS LIGHT SHOW 2.0** – Dec. 15-17, at 6, 7, 8 & 9pm, Topeka Bible Church, indoors at 1135 SW College Ave. Free light 7 sound shoe, hot cocoa bar, children's play area, photo opps, glow sticks for all! 234-5545

Lutheran Church, 17th & Gage. Also, every Sun. 9:30am service is interpreted.

**FAMILY EXPERIENCE (FX)** – Every Sun., 6:01pm, Fairlawn Church of Nazarene, 730 Fairlawn Rd. A time of high intensity, action packed, skit mania, worship music all centered around the word of God for 45 minutes. A free family worship event. For info: Emily Moore, 272-6322 or [fxthelawn@gmail.com](mailto:fxthelawn@gmail.com).

**LADIES' SMALL GROUP** – Every Sun., 6pm, Bethel Baptist Church, 4011 N. Kansas Ave. Studying the book of Esther, using the DVD series "It's Tough Being a Woman" by Beth Moore. All welcome. 286-0467.

**THE FORCE (Students Taking Action)** – 1st Mon. & 3rd Tue., 6:30-8pm, Safe Streets, 2209 SW 29th St. Committed to being alcohol & drug free. Associate with like-minded peers, plan activities & get involved in the community. Youth 12-18 invited. 266-4606.

**HEARTLAND HEALTHY NEIGHBORHOODS** – 2nd Mon., 11:45am-1pm. Promoting neighborhood well-being by mobilizing people, ideas & resources. 233-1365.

**TIBA NETWORKING GROUP** – 2nd Tues, 11:30a.m.-1 p.m. MUST RSVP: [taradimick@gmail.com](mailto:taradimick@gmail.com). Lunch is \$10. [www.topekatablog.org](http://www.topekatablog.org)

**TOPEKA LINCOLN CLUB** – 1st Tue. of month, 7pm, Topeka Public Library. Discussing our greatest President, Abraham Lincoln, and his times. The public is welcome. For info, contact Kirk Nystrom 235-6977.

**OUR LADY OF THE FAITHFUL** – Every 1st Tues., 6:30pm Mass followed by Dinner, Most Pure Heart of Mary Catholic Church. A Catholic group for those in their 20-30s. For info: Michelle Ann 580-3071 or [ourladyofthefaithful@gmail.com](mailto:ourladyofthefaithful@gmail.com). Facebook: "Our Lady of the Faithful."

**SUNRISE OPTIMIST CLUB** – Every Tue., 6:30am, Sunrise Optimist Complex, 720 NW 50th St. 246-1291.

**PARENTS OF ESTRANGED ADULT CHILDREN SUPPORT GROUP** – Third Tue. Ea. Month, 6:45-8:45pm, Topeka Public Library, Rm 202. Info: Jeff Landers - 224-5946

**MENNINGER BIBLE CLASSES** – Tuesdays Noon -1pm, Amerus Room, YWCA, 225 West 12th. A new study group for Year One of Flo Menninger's course on Four Years through the Bible. Read and discuss Genesis through First Kings. Nominal charge for materials. For info call the YWCA at 233-1750 or Clara Gamache at 785-408-5433.

**FRATERNAL ORDER OF EAGLES Aerie 4319**: First & Third Tue. 7pm; Auxiliary: Third & Fourth Tue. month 6pm, 2941 SE Fremont Street. The Fraternal Order of Eagles is an international non-profit organization uniting fraternally in the spirit of liberty, truth, justice, and equality, to make human life more desirable by lessening its ills and promoting peace, prosperity, gladness and hope. [www.foe.com](http://www.foe.com) 785-266-7307

**O.W.L.S. (Older Wise Loving Saints)** - meets the second Tuesday of the month. Location varies and can be found at [www.faithfamilylife.com](http://www.faithfamilylife.com)

**DADDY'S GIRLS EMPOWERMENT MEETINGS - Do you want MORE...** Come Join us for our More Luncheons where Real Women get together: share, learn and grow to return to our homes, families workplace, churches & other places of influence restored and rejuvenated to pursue God's MORE...at Topeka Public Library, 12 noon, every 3rd Wednesday. Sponsored by Daddy's Girls Inc. Please to RSVP make lunch reservations: [daddysgirlsincc@gmail.com](mailto:daddysgirlsincc@gmail.com) or 785-969-0491

**INNOVATIVE NETWORKING GROUP OF TOPEKA** - every other Wed. 11:20am - 12:30pm. [www.INGTopeka.com](http://www.INGTopeka.com) - go to Event page to see times, locations & register

**S.W.A.G. (Spiritual Warriors Anointed by God) youth group** - Wed at 7:00 p.m. 3710 NW Topeka Blvd.

**AWANA** – Every Wed., 6-8pm, First Southern Baptist Church, 1912 SW Gage Blvd. Bible based program for children & youth ages 3-HS. For info: 272-0443.

**AWANA** – Every Wed., 6:30pm, Bethel Baptist Church, 4011 N. Kansas Ave. Bible based program for children & youth ages 3-HS. For info: 286-0467.

**AWANA** – Every Wed., 6:30-8pm, Auburn Christian Church. Bible based program for children & youth ages 3-HS. For info: 256-2515.

**MACHINE EMBROIDERY CLUB** – 1st Wed., 9am-3pm, Our Savior's Lutheran Church, 2021 SW 29th Street (east door). Anyone with an Embroidery machine is invited to attend, there are no dues or formal meeting agenda. Lunch is on your own. Teach each other, enjoy fellowship & complete projects. Call 379-5159.

**SAFE STREETS MEETING** – 1st Wed., 11:45am, Golf Park Blvd. 2 blocks west of Adams. 266-4606.

**STUDENT IMPACT** – Every Wed., 6-8pm, First Southern Baptist, 1912 SW Gage Blvd. Youth games, teaching, worship, small groups. For info: 272-0443.

**CHRISTIAN CHALLENGE** – Every Thurs. 7-9pm, First Southern Baptist, 1912 SW Gage Blvd. Worship for college students.

**FULL GOSPEL BUSINESSMEN'S FELLOWSHIP** – 3rd Thurs., 6pm meal, 7pm meeting, Coyote Canyon, Huntoon & Wanamaker. Kirk Nystrom, 235-6977.

**Intentional Mom** – 1st & 3rd Thurs., 9-11:30am, Topeka Bible Church Auditorium, 1135 SW College. For all moms, helping them to be intentional! 234-5545.

**WELLS FARGO FINANCIAL EDUCATION EVENTS** - Blue Moose Bar & Grill, 11:30 AM on the third Thu & Fri each month. Free, but RSVP required. On Thu Brian discusses family wealth strategies. On Fri. Any discusses wealth strategies that apply to women. 785-271-2536 Jennifer.Ward@wellsfargo.com

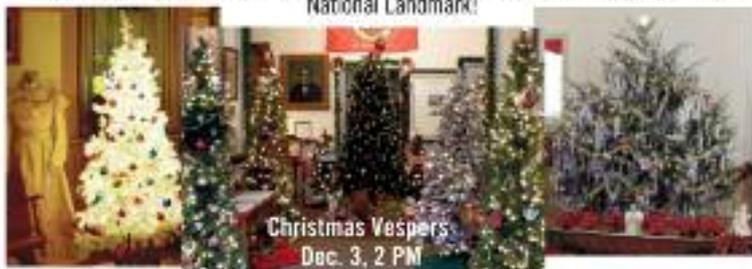
**OPERATION BACKPACK** – 1st Thurs., 6pm, Lyman Learning Center, Lyman and N. Kansas Ave. Volunteers gather to assemble Weekend Snack Sacks for low-income students. Sponsored by Topeka North Outreach. For info: 286-1370.

**TOPEKA GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY** – 4th Thurs., 7pm,

## Visit Historic Lecompton and see the largest Christmas Trees and Ornaments display in the Midwest!

Open Nov. 1 to Jan. 1 • 10am to 4pm Mon. - Sat. • 1 - 5pm Sunday

Over 130 trees decorated in antique, Victorian, vintage and theme décor – including turn-of-the-century and WW II-era decorations, a barb-wire tree, feather trees, and many more unique decorations! Also tour Constitution Hall, a National Landmark!



Christmas Vespers  
Dec. 3, 2 PM



- National Landmarks
- Territorial Capital Museum
- Constitution Hall

[www.LecomptonKansas.com](http://www.LecomptonKansas.com)



HISTORIC  
LECOMPTON

Civil War  
Birth Place

Where Slavery  
Began to Die

Kansas & National Historic Landmarks

Lecompton Turnpike Exit • 10 miles East of Topeka on U.S. 40 & 24

## MEETINGS & CLASSES

**C5Alive "POWER" LUNCHEON** – Nov. 9, 11:30-1, at Aldersgate Village. Featured speaker: Daren Busenitz, World Impact.

• Cost: \$10 for C5 members & first-time guests who RSVP, \$12 at the door

• \$15 for non-members & repeat guests.

• Please RSVP to [info@c5alive.org](mailto:info@c5alive.org), so we know how much food is needed!

Open to the public – Put POWER in your life with great food, great speakers and great company! Invite a friend to join you!

**SAVE THE DATE:** Dec. 14, 11:30-1, C5Alive Christmas Fun Luncheon, 11:30am - 1pm at Grandma Wock's on Fairlawn Plaza Mall. Christmas music, games & fun!

**CONCERNED WOMEN FOR AMERICA MEETING** - Join other concerned individuals to pray and unite in action for Shawnee County and our Nation. For info about monthly meetings: 785-260-5659 or go to [ks.cwfa.org](http://ks.cwfa.org).

**THE HEAT** - Free fitness classes; learn and build healthy social & eating habits. Held at Trinity Presbyterian Church, 4746 SW 21st St. Sun. - 4-5pm Yoga; Mon. - 12-12:45pm Zumba; 5:30-6:15pm Kickboxing; 6:15-7pm Pilates Fusion; Tue. - 12-12:45pm Yoga; 5:30-6:15pm Zumba; 6:15-7pm Cardio Interval; Wed. - 12-12:45pm Kickboxing; Thu. - 12-12:45pm Pilates; 5:30-6:15pm Cardio Interval - Low intensity; 6:15-7:00pm Cardio Interval - Moderate intensity; Fri. - 12-12:45pm Kickboxing; Sat. - 8-8:45am Kickboxing

**TOPEKA TREASURE HUNTERS CLUB** - 3rd Sun. of each month except May, Sep. & Dec., 7pm, Papan's Landing Senior Center, 618 NW Paramore St. Family Memberships include children & grandchildren up to 18 yrs. A place to meet friends to discuss all aspects of Metal Detecting, club business, plus socializing & entertainment.

**STEP UP – BUILDING THE SMART STEP-FAMILY** – Every Sun. 11am, Northland Christian Church, Room 4, 3102 NW Topeka Blvd. Focusing on the challenges facing step-families and blended families. Contact Thomas Munker at 249-3054 for info.

**BOY'S TRAIL LIFE & AMERICAN HERITAGE GIRLS TROUPE** - Every Mon. 6pm, Cornerstone Comm. Ch., 7620 SW 21st. Faith-based scouting programs, age 5-18. Register at [cornerstonetopeka.com](http://cornerstonetopeka.com). 478-2929.

**DEAF WORSHIP SERVICE** – 3rd Sun., 3pm, Faith

## Topeka Bible Church invites you to... FREE!

# Light Show 2.0

NOW Indoors! LET THERE BE LIGHT

Even if you've seen our Light Show before, you've never seen it like this!

- We've taken the show indoors for an immersive light and sound experience.
- Hot cocoa bar, children's play area, photo opportunities and glow sticks for everyone!



Free performances at 6, 7, 8 and 9 PM  
Friday-Sunday, December 15-17

**Topeka Bible Church**

1135 SW College Avenue  
DiscoverTBC.com  
785.234.5545

Topeka Shawnee County Public Library, 1515 SW 10th St. No program in Nov. or Dec. Promotes & stimulates the education, knowledge & interest of the membership & the public in family history, genealogical records & research. For info: 233-5762 or [tgsstopeka.org](http://tgsstopeka.org).

**KINGDOM ADVISORS TOPEKA AREA STUDY GROUP** – 3rd Thu., 11:30am, Northland Christian Church, 3102 NW Topeka Blvd. Christian financial professionals: financial planners, accountants, attorney's & insurance agents invited. For info: [kingdomadvisors.org](http://kingdomadvisors.org) or Jim Hanna, [james.c.hanna@ampf.com](mailto:james.c.hanna@ampf.com) or 357-6278 x19.

**TOPEKA (Downtown) OPTIMIST CLUB** – Every Fri., noon, Top of the Tower. Serving the youth of Topeka. Anyone welcome. For info: 272-1099 or [fostern60@yahoo.com](mailto:fostern60@yahoo.com).

**TOPS (Taking Off Pounds Sensibly)** – Every Fri. 8:30 to 10:00 am at 3221 SW Burlingame Road. 800-932-8677. Support for your weight loss journey. [tops.org](http://tops.org)

**VIP LUNCHEON FOR SENIORS** – Every Fri., Noon, North Topeka Baptist Church, 123 NW Gordon. FREE lunch with Christian fellowship, devotions & entertainment provided by Topeka North Outreach. Free blood pressure checks the last Friday of every month, and birthday celebrations the 4th Friday. For Info: 286-1370.

**A GOOD YARN CLUB** – 2nd & 4th Sat. 9-11am, Wanamaker Rd Baptist Church, 2700 SW Wanamaker. Doing Good for Others: Knitting & Crocheting for Local Charities, free yarn, needles, hooks & patterns. All are welcome. Anne, 272-9249 or [kittens812@sbcglobal.net](mailto:kittens812@sbcglobal.net)

**BIBLE QUIZZING** – 1st Sat. Learn God's Word & have fun with area Christian youth age 9-19. YFC/YEA style quizzing & rules. 913-593-6427 or [biblequizzing.org](http://biblequizzing.org).

**MONTHLY SCORE MEETING** – 1st Sat., 8-9:30am, Washburn Tech, 5724 SW Huntoon (enter east doors facing Huntoon). No RSVP or fee is required. Small business owners are invited to a Breakfast Roundtable discussion with members of SCORE (Service Corps of Retired Executives). Info: 234-3049.

**TOPEKA LOVE AGLOW** – Once a month on Sat. morning. A time of worship, prayer and encountering God. Call Tawny Barton at 785-409-0232 or Linda Williams at 785-267-0600 for details.

**FREE ENGLISH CLASSES** – Every Sat. 9-10:30am, Central Congregational Church, 1248 SW Buchanan. For info: 235-2376.

**RUSSIAN HOUSE OF PRAYER** – Every Sat., 4pm, Williamstown Assembly of God, 1225 Oak St., Perry/Williamstown. For info: 597-5228.

**SINGLES PLAY CARDS SR.** – 1st Sat., 6-9pm, St. Peter's UMC, NW 35th & Hwy 75

**SAVING DEATH ROW DOGS ADOPTION & EDUCATION** – every Sat. 11am-2pm, Petco, 1930 SW Wanamaker.

**UPPER ROOM COMMUNITY** – second Sat., 10 am, Capitol Building

**SUPPORT GROUPS**

**MIDLAND CARE GRIEF SUPPORT** Groups: Building A, 200 SW Frazier Circle

Every Mon., 4-5pm: 12 Week Adult Group for Recent Loss 1st and 3rd Thu., 10:30am & 5:30pm— Ongoing Adult Group 1st and 3rd Thu., 5:30pm: Ongoing Young Adult Group (4-18 years of age)

For All Groups: Call for start dates and info packet. Group and individual grief support available upon request. For info: 785-232-2044 ext. 341

**ABORTION RECOVERY SUPPORT** – Providing services for women & men who suffer from Post-Abortion Syndrome... we can help mend a broken heart! For info: Kay Lyn at [KLCarlson20@cox.net](mailto:KLCarlson20@cox.net).

**AL-ANON FAMILY GROUPS** – for friends & families of alcoholics. For info: 785-409-3072 or [topekaalanon.org](http://topekaalanon.org)

**PURSUIT FOR SEXUAL PURITY** – Men struggling with pornography & sexual addiction. This bible study/ accountability group uses the Pure Desire book by Ted Roberts. For info: 249-9509. All inquiries confidential.

**ALZHEIMER'S SUPPORT GROUPS** – Monthly support group meetings for caregivers of individuals with Alzheimer's disease or a related dementia. For info: Alzheimer's Association, Heart of America Chapter, 271-1844 or email [cindy.miller@alz.org](mailto:cindy.miller@alz.org).

**"HEALING HEARTS" support group/Bible study** – For women whose husbands struggle with pornography addictions or have had affairs. Videos & workbook will give you hope for your marriage & emotional healing. For info: Jane Goble, 249-0983.

**BIKERS AGAINST CHILD ABUSE** – NE Kansas Chapter (B.A.C.A.) 3rd Sun., 4 pm American Legion, 3800 SE Michigan. Open to the public. For info: 817-5801.

**FRIENDS WITH M.S.** – 3rd Mon., 6:30pm, Our Savior's Lutheran Church, 2021 SW 29th St. (Enter East door). A Multiple Sclerosis support group. Donna, 266-7383.

**BOUNCE BACK SELF-HELP** – 3rd Mon., 6:30pm, Our Savior's Lutheran Church, 2021 SW 29th St. For those living with multiple sclerosis. For info: 273-0799.

**INCARCERATED PERSONS & FAMILIES** – 1st Mon., 6:30-7:30pm, YMCA, 421 Van Buren. 286-2329.

**COMPASSIONATE FRIENDS/BEREAVED PARENTS GROUP** – Meets 4th Mon. in Formation classroom at Most Pure Heart of Mary, 17th & Stone. Discussion starts 7pm; fellowship & refreshments 8:30. 272-4895

**GRIEF SUPPORT** – First Monday each month, 3:30-4:30pm, 400 SW Oakley. Call Donna Park for info: 783-7527 or [valeotopeka.org](http://valeotopeka.org). Open to public. Free.

**GRIEF SUPPORT** – Sponsored by Heartland Hospice for those dealing with death or major loss:

1st Mon., 5:30-7:30pm. Individual appointments; other times are available. Call Terry Frizzell at (785)230-6730.

3rd Thurs., 11am, Lunch After Loss, Paisano's Ristorante, Fleming Place, SW 10th & Gage Blvd.. Dutch treat luncheon to meet new friends who have sat where you are sitting. For reservations or info: 785-271-6500.

**OVEREATERS / UNDEREATERS ANONYMOUS:**

MON., 7pm – Westminster Presbyterian, south door, upstairs in Library; 233-6724.

WED., 7pm – St. Francis Hospital meeting room 6, 2nd floor; 234-8020.

SAT. - 9am – St. Francis Hospital meeting room 8, 2nd floor; 862-2326.

For info: 357-8774; [sunflowerintergroup.org](http://sunflowerintergroup.org).

**NAMI TOPEKA** – Every 2nd Tue., 6:45pm, lower level of Valeo, 330 SW Oakley. If door is locked, call 608-1317 to get in. 1st hour is often a discussion of an important topic or video. 2nd hour is usually a support talk time, w/ separate consumer & family groups. 608-1317.

**GRIEF SHARE SUPPORT GROUP** – every Tue, 6:30pm, East Side Baptist Church, 4425 SE 29th St. 13 weeks starting Aug. 22. Welcome to ESBC. Video seminar, support group & workbook for journaling and personal study exercises. (785) 379-9933; [esbcs.org](http://esbcs.org); [secretary@esbcs.org](mailto:secretary@esbcs.org)

**KC TRAUMA AND PTSD SUPPORT GROUP** - Every Tue. 10am and Thu. 6:30pm. Call Denise at 816-885-9530.

**EMOTIONS ANONYMOUS:** a 12 step program for those suffering with emotional instability such as depression, anxiety, grief, etc. Meets at Grace Episcopal Cathedral, weekly, Tuesdays, Noon-1:00. IVC. For more information contact Sharon at 785-633-7764

**OSTOMY SUPPORT GROUP** - First Tue. each month at St. Francis Health, 1700 SW 7th St. Meeting Room, 2nd floor. 6-7:30pm. Anyone with an ostomy may attend. The goal is to provide education and ongoing support for individuals with an ostomy. Contact Teresa Kellerman at 785-295-5555 for info.

**GRANDPARENT/RELATIVE CAREGIVER SUPPORT GROUP** – 3rd Tue., 6:30-8pm, 2nd floor meeting room, St. Francis Hosp, 1700 SW 7th. For info: Sharla, 286-2329; Jennie (English/Spanish) 231-0763.

**PARENTS OF ESTRANGED ADULT CHILDREN SUPPORT GROUP** - Third Tue. Ea. Month, 6:45-8:45pm, Topeka

Public Library, Rm 202. Info: Jeff Landers - 224-5946

**THE GREATER TOPEKA MULTIPLE MYELOMA** – 3rd Tue., 7-8:30pm, Faith Lutheran Church, 17th St. & Gage Blvd. Open to Multiple Myeloma patients, their family members & friends. Share support, information, & friendship. For info: Donna, 903-918-9553.

**"HEALING AFTER THE SUICIDE OF A LOVED ONE" ("HEAL")** – or Survivors of Suicide" (SOS). 1st & 3rd Tue., 7-8:30pm, Pozez Education Center of Stormont Vail Hospital, 1505 SW 8th St. Serving anyone who has lost a loved one by suicide.

**PRISON OUTREACH MINISTRY** – Every Tue., 7-9pm, Topeka Women's Prison, 815 Rice Rd. Reaching out to those who can't come in, finding freedom behind bars, inspiring inmates to seek salvation during a difficult time. Providing support & guidance through the Holy Spirit to offer strength. Director: Don Garner, 286-0489 or [faithfamilyfeministries@gmail.com](mailto:faithfamilyfeministries@gmail.com).

**GAMBLERS ANONYMOUS** – Every Wed, 7pm, St. Francis Hospital, meeting room #8.

**JAYHAWK AREA AGENCY ON AGING** – 4th Wed., 1pm, Rosehill Place Clubhouse. Monthly support group for caregivers of seniors. For info: 235-1367 ext.30.

**MOMS-IN-TOUCH PRAYER GROUP** – Every Wed., 2:30-3:30pm, Library at Cair Paravel-Latin School. Experience God's power through prayer as we lift our students, teachers, staff, administrators & board up to the Lord. For info: 357-0369.

**DIVORCECARE PROGRAMS** – (For updates check [www.divorcecare.org](http://www.divorcecare.org)) locations and times:

WED. – 6:30pm, Topeka Bible Church, 1101 SW Mulvane. Cost: \$15. Child care provided. For info: 379-0505 or [www.divorcecare.org](http://www.divorcecare.org).

WED. – 6:45 – 8:45pm, Walnut View Christian Church, 3634 SE 37th St. (just East of 37th & Croco). Cost: \$10 registration (scholarships available). The video seminar series featuring some of the nation's foremost experts on divorce and recovery topics, combined with support group discussion of the materials. Complimentary child care children up to the fifth grade. Info: 266-7550 or [walnutviewcc@att.net](mailto:walnutviewcc@att.net)

WED. – 6:30pm, Northland Christian Church, 3102 NW Topeka Blvd. No Cost. 286-1204, [www.northland.cc](http://www.northland.cc)



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**HISTORIC GEM APARTMENTS**  
 On National & State Historic Registers  
 508 SW 10th (10th & Topeka Blvd.)  
**(785) 233-9930**

**NAMI WASHBURN** – 4th Thurs., 6-8pm, Spirit Building Room, University United Methodist Church, 1621 SW College Ave. NAMI is a student-run, student-led organization that provides mental health support, education, & advocacy in the Washburn Univ. setting.

**PROSTATE CANCER SUPPORT GROUP** – 1st Thurs., 7pm, Saint Francis Hospital 2nd floor conf. room of the cancer unit. For info: 266-9533.

**NICOTINE ANONYMOUS** – Every Fri., 6:30pm, Town & Country Christian Church Renaissance Room, 4925 SW 29th St., use west door cross red foot bridge. A fellowship of men & women helping each other to live free of nicotine. No fees. 402-321-486; [Laboomaha@att.net](mailto:Laboomaha@att.net).

**CELEBRATE RECOVERY** – Every Fri., 6pm, 1912 Gage Blvd. A Christ-centered program, based on 8 principles found in Jesus' Sermon on the Mount. Applying these Biblical principles, become free from addictive & dysfunctional behaviors. [crtpeka.org](http://crtpeka.org).

**TOPEKA NAR-ANON FAMILY GROUP** – For families & friends who are affected by someone else's narcotic addiction. Every Sat., noon-1:15 pm, rm. A 1st Baptist Church, 3033 SW MacVicar, enter on S. side, door A. [www.naranonmidwest.org](http://www.naranonmidwest.org)

**COVENANT KEEPERS** – 3rd Sat. Group for people who want to see their marriage saved when their spouse wants out. For info: 816-453-0884 or 816-966-0927.



**G-PRO** Workshops Filling Up Fast!  
 Specializing in Entrepreneurial Training

**T R A I N I N G** **W O R K S H O P**

Are you a cleaning professional or business owner that is looking for additional income?  
 Do you want to start a business in the service industry?

Airbnb hosting in the greater Kansas City metro area is one of the most untapped and lucrative income opportunities for real estate and home owners. The "sharing economy" has created a number of riches that are not being taken advantage of by the traditional service industry in this area.

As an Airbnb host, you can also run cleaning crews that service other Airbnb properties. And if you already own a cleaning business, you can increase your revenue by servicing Airbnb properties. Every Airbnb host would like their property to be a place that clients never want to leave, and that they can book repeatedly. In this Workshop you will learn tips that will make your property even more attractive to potential clients. Our team of experts includes concierge and janitorial business owners with over 30 years of experience to speak from. Our team also includes design professionals working on some of the most notable design projects in downtown K.C., Mo. to include Ruby Jean's Juicery and the award-winning Laya Center.

We invite you to learn how to create an unforgettable experience, and also how to enhance or build your Airbnb business, your cleaning business to service your Airbnb hosts, and how to use technology to your advantage and move your service forward into the 21st Century!

For more information call (785) 640-3175  
 Held at the Laya Center, 601 Walnut St., Kansas City, MO  
**Call to reserve your space - 785-234-3907**

Nov. 7 2017 **FREE Event!**



**TV25 RATE SHEET**  
 November Special  
 (Expires Dec 1)

Total Spend/month	Rate per spot (15,30,60)
\$500	\$2.00
\$1000	\$1.50
\$2000	\$1.00

1/2 Price with any Christmas Bundle Purchase

913-638-7373 Today!

**Long Form**  
 58:30/57 min \$450  
 28:30 \$250

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# entertainment

## From behind the counter to on the bookstore shelves

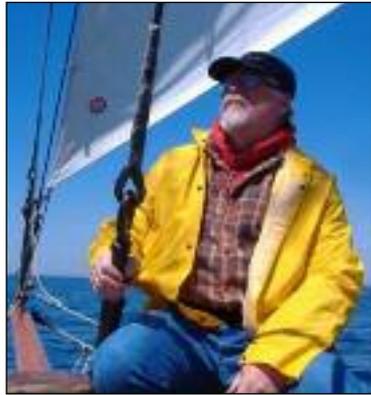
### authors

by **Jeanette Gardner Littleton**

Sometimes life takes us to interesting places. Jon Hopkins, a member of Heart of America Christian Writers Network ([www.HACWN.org](http://www.HACWN.org)) and author of a novel series, as well as a contributor to other books and magazines, tells about an interesting twist in his life journey.

#### You have a teaching and youth ministry background. How did you end up in a bookstore?

I was between youth ministry jobs. I thought, where would I like to work? I got a job at Border's bookstore and before the year was up, became an inventory supervisor there. I then moved to Tonganoxie, Kan., where I served as a youth pastor for seven years. It was seven years ago that I got a job at another bookstore in Lawrence, Kan., (Signs of Life Bookstore) to supplement my "ministry wage." I love the bookstore as it has a coffee shop and a great atmosphere with plenty of students there from KU studying. I tell



people I get paid in coffee and friendships.

#### What was the most surprising thing you learned working on the other side of the bookstore counter?

That most Christians read secular fiction rather than Christian fiction. I have heard the word "fluff" when referring to Christian fiction several times.

I also learned that a bookstore is a place where people in need and hurt come for counsel, whether it is for a book recommendation, or a talk with the employee behind the counter.

er. Such things as a loved one died and they need a book on grief. One lady asked, "My husband committed adultery and I don't believe in divorce. Is there a book that will help me deal with this?"

#### What is something that people usually don't realize about bookstores?

Customers seem to think we know the name and author of every book written. One person asked me to find a book and they didn't know the author or the title. But they remembered it had a purple cover.

Many download e-books. Those are not found in the bookstore. Bookstores are a dying breed and there is not much profit in selling books even though most people like the smell of a book and the feel of holding one in their hands as they read. That is why most stores sell gift items to stay in business.

#### Is there any reason to visit a local bookstore instead of one of the box retailers? How about Amazon?

Supporting the local mom-and-pop

■ See DORSEY on page 18

## MOVIES, STREAMING, BOOKS, MUSIC, INTERVIEWS & MORE!

### streaming



Mike Vogel plays Lee Strobel in the Case for Christ. Faye Dunaway also stars in this well-made film adaptation of the book.

### The Case for Christ tops Nov. Streaming

By Michael Foust

Lee is a journalist who wants to prove that there is no God, and he's going to use his award-winning reporter skills to do it.

Sure, it sounds difficult, but if he examines the evidence and interviews enough experts, the case will solve itself. Right? At least, that's how he's cracked criminal cases his entire career.

"Facts are our greatest weapon against superstition, against ignorance and ignorance tyranny," he says.

His war against God started at a restaurant, where his young daughter nearly died while choking on food but was saved by a stranger sitting at a nearby table. That stranger, a middle-aged woman, tells Lee that she nearly didn't come to the restaurant that night. The implication: If she hadn't changed her mind, the girl might be dead.

"It wasn't luck. It was Jesus," the woman says.

The event transformed Lee's wife from skeptic to Christian, but he isn't convinced. Soon, he's traveling the country to save his wife from this "myth" – and perhaps even to change the course of history.

The Case For Christ (PG) starts streaming on Netflix Nov. 21, recounting the incredible tale of Lee Strobel's journey in the early 1980s from radical atheist to sold-out Christian apologist.

It stars Mike Vogel (Cloverfield, The Help) as Strobel; Erika Christensen (Parenthood) as his wife, Leslie; Mike Pniewski (Madam Secretary, Blue Bloods, Killing Reagan) as Lee's Christian co-worker, Kenny; and Academy Award winner Faye Dunaway as scholar Roberta Waters.

The Case For Christ is one of the best films of 2017 and perhaps the most inspiring. It masterfully weaves a spoonful of apologetics into an engaging plot that parents, teens and older children can enjoy together. It contains no sexuality, language or violence, although there are a few scenes that might be too much for little kids: Strobel gets drunk at home, and he and his wife then have an intense argument. He shouts at his father and says a few things he later regrets. A family member also dies.

The movie shines in its presentation of apologetics – no easy feat in a drama. It

■ Please see STREAMING page 17

### New this month:

#### Netflix



The Boss Baby (PG, 2017) – A 7-year-old boy gets a baby brother who just happens to be able to talk. He's also a sassy brat, and soon, the two are in a selfish fight for their parents' attention. This one ends with a positive message, but the sibling rivalry – which comprises most of the film –



made me uncomfortable. Rated PG for some mild rude humor. Nov. 22.

42 (PG-13, 2013) – A man named Jackie Robinson becomes the first black player in Major League Baseball. Of course, we've read about him in the history books, but it's just different to watch the racial ugliness and baseball heroics unfold on the big screen. Caution: This one has lots of n-words and about five instances of GD. Rated PG-13 for thematic



elements including language. Nov. 1.

#### Hulu

D 3 : T h e M i g h t y

Ducks (PG, 1996) – The third and final installment in Disney's Mighty Ducks fran-



chise spotlights the hockey kids' transition into their high school years. Contains some mild language and romantic angles. Rated PG for hockey rough-housing and mild language. Nov. 1.

Treasure Planet (PG, 2002) – A science fiction adaptation of the popular

■ Please see NEW THIS MONTH page 17

## New Christmas album releases announced

### musicscene

Am I the only one who begins singing or humming Christmas tunes somewhere around October and

November? When anyone asks me what my favorite holiday is, I always answer with Christmas. Christmas reminds me of family time, good food and of course celebrating our saviors birth. Although its just November, I wanted to give you all an early start on your Christmas listening pleasures. Go ahead and get through Thanksgiving while listening to Christmas tunes like me.

#### November New Releases

The Walls Group - The Other Side - R C A Inspiration - Provident

Francesca Battistelli - Greatest Hits: The First Ten Years - Fervent Records - Word

Dee 1 - Slingshot David - Independent

Skillet - Unleashed Beyond - Atlantic Records - New Day

Jeremy Riddle - More - Bethel Music - New Day

Nelons - The Americana Sessions - Daywind - New Day

Sara Groves - Abide With Me - FairTrade Services - Provident

Alexis Slifer - Famous For EP - Bema Media

Kutless - Alpha Omega - BEC Recordings - New Day

#### Tye Tribbett and The Bloody Win

With one listen to Grammy Award-winning gospel artist Tye Tribbett, it's obvious God has blessed him with many gifts. The New Jersey native is a songwriter of considerable depth and insight as well as a spirit-filled vocalist who knows how to get worshippers on their feet rejoicing. Over the years, God has opened doors for Tribbett to spread the gospel through a variety of different avenues. He's toured with numerous artists including Faith Hill, Tim McGraw and Don Henley and has sung on recordings

for Justin Timberlake, Missy Elliott, Sting and many others. His music has graced radio airwaves, television shows and movie soundtracks. Tribbett is a well-respected and highly anointed artist, yet when his name is mentioned, people are also quick to say how much fun and how joyful his music is. Tribbett released his sixth album on October 13. The album is titled The Bloody Win.

Months before the album was

released, he began teasing us by releasing one new song from the album every three weeks until the approach of The Bloody Win tour.

"Work It Out and "Already Won" are two fan favorites. The 12 tracks of the project go from up-tempo, praise and worship-worthy jams to the most poignant of gospel exaltation. And Tribbett is heaven-bent on raising the bar for the glory to God.

"My album The Bloody Win is conceptually about aggressive victory," he says of the project. "It's a message that now is not the time to be passive. When there's darkness in the world, you have to fight for the light."

#### Bryan & Katie Torwalt Christmas

Bryan and Katie Torwalt's latest EP, Christmas, is the perfect way to ring in the holiday season.

Starting out the project with two classics, "The Christmas Song," and "It's Beginning to Look a Lot Like Christmas," the husband and wife duo create gorgeous harmonies paired with classic melodies, evoking a sense of "home" that only the holiday season can. The third song is a fresh take on two classics, creating a medley of "Hark! The Herald Angels Sing," and

■ Please see MUSIC page 17



Cedric Austin



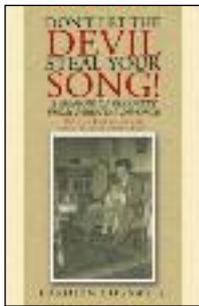
## NEW BOOK BY LOCAL AUTHOR HELPS PEOPLE COPE WITH STRUGGLES

### bookscene

Don't Let The Devil Steal Your Song! A Memoir of Recovery From Parental Divorce With 20 Essentials for Finding Your Sweet Spot by Carolyn Cogswell, ISBN 978-1-5127-8464-0, in hardcover (\$33.95), trade paperback (\$17.95) and e-book. (\$2.99), 179 pages, 5.5" x 8.5" is now available at [westbowpress.com](http://westbowpress.com), Amazon.com and [barnesandnoble.com](http://barnesandnoble.com).

Don't Let The Devil Steal Your Song! addresses the process of walking away from the world and finding Christ, coping with a parent's Alzheimer's and death, inner healing after parental divorce, and navigating complex family relationships.

Martha Saint Berberian, Guatemala City, Guatemala, writes, "Dr. Carolyn Cogswell takes an honest look at the long-



term effects of divorce on the children, often destroying their lives. The story is told by someone who lived through it painfully, and finally found peace, love and forgiveness in Jesus Christ. This book is a must read for professionals who analyze realities of divorce, and a must read for children of divorce still struggling with self-blame and looking for inner healing."

Carolyn Cogswell has been involved in the ministry of praise and worship for more than thirty years. She has taught at the high school and college levels, worked as a journalist, and is coauthor of the book *Weekly Insights for the Workplace: A Devotional for Christian Professionals* with Agnes Amos-Coleman (Westbow Press, 2016).

For more information or to schedule an interview, contact the author at (785) 817-0303, [carolyncogswell@yahoo.com](mailto:carolyncogswell@yahoo.com) or <https://www.facebook.com/Carolyn-Cogswell-459887131106231/>

## Has Chip Gaines Solved the Anxiety of Our Age?

Chip and Joanna Gaines are back in the news. Critics continue to look for reasons why they would step away from their very profitable television show, but Chip's explanation is simple: "That's not what motivates us: more money, more fame, more things. We didn't really want all of this stuff to begin with."

Yesterday was the thirtieth anniversary of Black Monday, the worst day in Wall Street history. While experts believe our economy is safer now than it was then, 85 percent of US adults nonetheless experience some form of financial anxiety. Roughly two-thirds admit that their financial anxiety is negatively affecting their health; 70 percent say it is adversely impacting their home life.

More Americans than ever before are stressed, depressed, and anxiety-ridden. A perceptive commentator noted that "the epidemic of anxiety is not just a mental health issue, but it is also cultural pathology. Our way of life promotes anxiety and its consequences."

Ministers are not immune from the

anxiety of our age. A third of pastors admit that they battle discouragement, fear of inadequacy, or depression. Consider this observation:

"Perhaps the ministry was never busier than it is now. Hundreds of men are hoarse from continual speaking, and are wearied out with running here and running there. If things slow down, we evolve yet another type of meeting. And when this new and added wheel is spinning merrily with all the other wheels, there may be no spiritual outcome whatsoever, but there is a wind blowing in our faces; and we hot and sticky engineers have a comfortable feeling that something is going on."

Arthur John Gossip wrote these words in 1952. What would he say of our frenzied, over-scheduled church culture today?

By contrast, Oswald Chambers notes: "In our Lord's life there was none of the press and rush of tremendous activity that we regard so highly, and the disciple is to be as his Master. The central thing about the kingdom of Jesus Christ is a personal

relationship to himself, not public usefulness to men."

Craig Denison adds: "You'll find no greater joy, peace, or purpose than in serving Jesus alone. There is no greater life than one lived in full devotion to the King of all the earth."

I have found that I experience sustained peace and joy in direct proportion to the degree that I am in love with Jesus. When the living Christ is just part of my life rather than the focus of my life, the spokes detach from the hub and the wheel breaks down. When I walk with Jesus through the day, worshiping him and thanking him and asking for his wisdom and depending on his power, I experience a centeredness and deep delight that words cannot express.

Henri Nouwen describes our Lord as the God "who sent his Son to become God-with-us and . . . sent his Spirit to become God-within-us." Think of it: the God who rules the universe now inhabits your body.

Should we love anyone or anything more than him? Should we work in our power or his?

### MUSIC

continued from page 16

"Oh Come Let Us Adore Him."

The EP concludes with, "Emmanuel," a Christmas version of an original that was released on their latest album, *Champion*.

This song perfectly showcases the Torwalt's incredible songwriting gift as they capture the true meaning behind the Christmas season. Bryan and Katie have created new renditions of classics, as well as worshipful moments that will surely become part of your holiday collection for years to come.

The EP truly captures the heart of the season and is an album you won't want to miss.

### A Very Perry Christmas

The journey for The Perrys began on Christmas Day in 1970, when siblings Libbi, Randy and Debra gathered around a piano to sing. After 47 years of full-time ministry, thousands of fans and an impressive number of accolades including chart topping album sales and radio singles, The Perrys are finally adding their first Christmas album to the impressive discography.

Appropriately titled, *A Very Perry Christmas*, this album will lift the spirits and whisk you away to Christmases past with their classic arrangements of familiar tunes from the tender, *Silver and Gold* (from the television classic, *Rudolph, the Red-Nosed Reindeer*) to the joyous favorite, *We Wish You A Merry Christmas* to the official Christmas song of Hawaii, *Mele Kalikimaka*. So start the fire, brew the hot cocoa, grab the peppermint sticks and get ready for a VERY PERRY CHRISTMAS!



### DORSEY

continued from page 16

store supports the mom and pop and all the workers. Every bookstore, big or small, gets books from the same place. Big box stores can carry more items and turn the inventory over quickly. They can also afford more to discount books.

However, local bookstores offer a relationship with the customers that you normally don't find in a place that has six registers and a long wait in line. I know many customers by name and try to engage every person that walks in the door with kindness and interaction. They are often more than a bookstore. They are a ministry.

One day we will all work for Amazon, right? Unfortunately, Amazon can give a book to someone cheaper (unless you must pay for shipping). Amazon also has quick

### STREAMING

continued from page 16

succeeds partially because filmmakers limited Strobel's on-screen interviews with scholars to about five (instead of the real-life 12), and because the interactions are mostly brief. It seems natural, and not clunky or academic.

The apologetics angle also works because it doesn't dominate the film. The movie has at least three other angles: his struggling marriage, his rocky relationship with his father, and his big-city newspaper day job.

The film demonstrates how the testimony and action of just a handful of people can impact someone for Christ. The stranger-turned-friend leads Leslie Strobel to Christ, and she in turn starts her husband on a path that changes his life forever.

"She's different," an unbelieving Strobel tells a friend.

ready access to rare and hard-to-find books.

We have become a society that believes social interaction is a "like" on Facebook. That is a shame. We need connection. I guarantee there are no hugs from Amazon when you "connect" with the digital bookseller. Come to my bookstore and you'll find plenty of hugs for free.

### How has working in a bookstore affected you as an author?

Every day I see the books that people enjoy and buy. I hear about the authors they are passionate about. I also see their faces when they pick up a book and it is just like the last one they read.

People nowadays want real things. Hard things. Deep things that move them. Even if they want escape, they want to REALLY escape. Perhaps that is why many Christians read secular fiction books.

Even non-fiction book choices of our customers are the hard-hitting stuff. There is a big swing to Puritan, C.S. Lewis, and Christian classics.

Therefore, seeing what people want to read, I can direct my writing to those things that will hopefully

### NEW THIS MONTH

continued from page 16

novel and movie *Treasure Island*, *Treasure Planet* takes the adventure into space, as young Jim Hawkins embarks on a galactic treasure hunt. Rated PG for adventure action and peril. Nov. 1.

Editor's note: Amazon's November titles not available at press time.



reach the reader of today. I encourage other writers to write about the dark things because when the customer asks for a book regarding a child's suicide... who do you think wrote that book? Someone who went through that and with God's help came out the other side.

### Tell us about the book series you're working on with your twin brother.

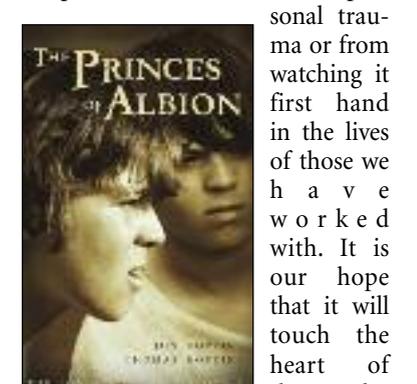
Our current historical fiction series takes place in the first century Celtic Britain and Rome. It is a story of two young twin boys who grow up underneath a power-hungry abusive father. They try to survive until one of the boys' stumbles into his father's secrets. The boy has decisions to make because lives are at stake. So, he decides to kill his father—even if it takes the whole Roman army to do so. The story appeals to young adults yet can be enjoyed by any age from middle school to old age.

Everyone feels trauma in some way in their life. Whether it is the loss of a loved one or the betrayal by a friend. The story deals with trauma

in a unique way and during a unique time in history. It deals with dark issues of domestic violence, child abuse, and bullying. It shows how trauma affects people and more importantly, how they heal.

Each book in the series has a Biblical walk on character to thread the gospel into the story.

My twin brother is a medical doctor and I have worked with families in crisis for over 40 years. Much of the plot ideas come from our personal trauma or from watching it first hand in the lives of those we have worked with. It is our hope that it will touch the heart of those who read it, and be a tool God can use to lead others to healing of their own personal trauma story.



The *Princes of Albion: Book one in The Long-Aimed Blow series* by Jon Hopkins and Thomas Hopkins. Published by Wheatmark Publishers. Available at your friendly neighborhood local bookstore and uh... Amazon.

The *Princes of Albion: Book one in The Long-Aimed Blow series* by Jon Hopkins and Thomas Hopkins. Published by Wheatmark Publishers. Available at your friendly neighborhood local bookstore and uh... Amazon.



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# 50+ Lifestyles A Guide to Enjoying Life in the Best Years

## healthy living



### The number one food to avoid over 50

Did you know sugar is eight times more addictive than cocaine and linked to the deaths of almost 600,000 Americans a year? It's true.

One recent study found that Oreo cookies, of all things, were actually MORE addictive than both cocaine and heroin.

No wonder people have such a hard time saying "no" to sugary snack foods. They're designed create addictive behavior.



### Sugar makes it nearly impossible to lose weight

Just a little bit of sugar can completely short circuit your efforts to lose weight. That's because sugar spikes your insulin levels. Insulin is the hormone that tells your body to store fat.

"In the presence of insulin, you cannot burn fat," says Dr. Eric Berg. "All of the fat-burning hormones are nullified when you have just a little bit of sugar."

Even worse, sugar that isn't immediately converted to energy is converted into fat.

This fat is known as "adipose tissue," and it's very difficult to lose.

### Sugar is in Everything - Even So-Called "Health Foods"

Many people who think they are being healthy with their food choices are shocked when they discover how much sugar they're actually consuming every day. This is because sugar is added to just about everything.

Pick up any loaf of bread at the grocery store, and chances are you'll find sugar, honey, corn syrup, or brown rice syrup in the first five ingredients.

But bread isn't the only food product that has added sugar. You'll find it in crackers, cereals, yogurt, tomato sauce, even salad dressings and chips.

### Fun fitness facts

- It is estimated that only 22% of American adults participate in regular, sustained physical activity for at least 30 minutes, 5 times a week

- On average, it takes about 12 weeks after beginning to exercise to see measurable changes in your body.

- Approximately 25% of American adults are sedentary

- No matter how poor your current level of fitness, you can start an exercise routine and become fitter and healthier at anytime.

- Walking at a fast pace burns almost as many calories as jogging for the same distance.

- The word "gymnasium" comes from the Greek word "gymnazein", which literally means "to exercise naked."

- It is scientifically suggested that walking at a fast pace for 3 hours or more at least one time a week can reduce your risk for heart disease by up to 65%.

### Cut Out Sugar - Lose the Weight

The message is clear: Sugar causes the body to store fat. And losing weight becomes a whole lot easier once you cut out sugar.

In fact, the media is chock full of stories about popular celebrities cutting out sugar and losing weight these days. One of the most impressive success stories is Fergie, the Duchess of York, who lost 50 pounds in just five months... at the age of 54! Such an achievement would be impressive for a 30-year-old. But to lose 50 pounds so quickly at 54 is, quite simply, amazing.

If it worked for her, perhaps a similar no-sugar diet could help you achieve your weight loss goals, too.

## Misconceptions about caregiver stress

### thecaregiver

Sometimes caregivers have misconceptions that increase their stress and get in the way of good self-care. Here are some of the most commonly expressed:

- I am responsible for my parent's health.
- If I don't do it, no one will.
- If I do it right, I will get the love, attention, and respect I deserve.
- Our family always takes care of their own.
- I promised my father I would always take care of my mother.

"I never do anything right," or "There's no way I could find the time to exercise" are examples of negative self-talk, another possible barrier that can cause unnecessary anxiety. Instead, try positive statements: "I'm good at giving John a bath." "I can exercise for 15 minutes a day." Remember, your mind tends to believe what you tell it.

Because we base our behavior on our thoughts and beliefs, attitudes and misconceptions like those noted above can cause caregivers to continually attempt to do what cannot be done, to control what cannot be controlled. The result is feelings of continued failure and frustration and, often, an inclination to ignore your own needs. Ask yourself what

might be getting in your way and keeping you from taking care of yourself.

How we perceive and respond to an event is a significant factor in how we adjust and cope with it. The stress you feel is not only the result of your caregiving situation but also the result of your perception of it—whether you see the glass as half-full or half-empty. It is important to remember that you are not alone in your experiences.

Your level of stress is influenced by many factors, including the following:

- Whether your caregiving is voluntary. If you feel you had no choice in taking on the responsibilities, the chances are greater that you will experience strain, distress, and resentment.
- Your relationship with the care recipient. Sometimes people care for another with the hope of healing a relationship. If healing does not occur, you may feel regret and discouragement.

■ See CAREGIVER on next page



## SOCIAL SECURITY AND THE TICKING TIME BOMB

### moneymatters

Life expectancy in the United States is the longest ever—approaching 79 years. With very few exceptions, our life expectancy has continued to increase in our nation's history.

During my lifetime, life expectancy has increased from 70 to almost 79. In 1960, when life expectancy was 70, full retirement age for Social Security was 65. Therefore, on average, it was necessary for Social Security benefits to be able to fund five years of retirement. Now, as life expectancy approaches 79, full retirement age has increased to 67. Hence, on average, it will now be necessary for Social Security benefits to fund 12 years of retirement.

Social Security has been labeled the "third rail of American politics." This label, going back to (at least) the Reagan era, predicts that politicians who are so bold as to propose changes in these benefits are committing political suicide. The increase in retirement age (that continues to grow from age 65 to age 67) was enacted in 1983 and signed into law by President Reagan. His landslide reelection in the following year suggests that changes to Social Security might not be as suicidal as the phrase suggests.

Many young adults expect the system to implode long before they retire. This is unacceptable. It would be extremely selfish of our genera-

tion to bankrupt this system without finding some long-term solution.

Apart from the Social Security angle, the reality is that over the last decade, pension and retirement benefits have collapsed or have been drastically cut for many Americans. Those who carefully planned and managed their expected retirement position often had to make life-changing adjustments in order to regain that position.

It is unreasonable to expect our

youth to fund 12 years of retirement. It is time to revisit this issue and

undergo serious bipartisan work to make it better. The longer life expectancy must be considered as we plan for the future stability of retirement benefits—the future financial stability of our children and grandchildren.

—Dr. Gary L. Welton is assistant dean for institutional assessment, professor of psychology at Grove City



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# SOCIAL SECURITY QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Christopher Columbus might be one of the most famous explorers in America. He's credited with discovering the New World, though Native Americans were here long before the Italian sailor.

Centuries later, there are new horizons to explore and you can do it from the comfort of your home or office. With Social Security, you can discover a new world of information and services at [www.socialsecurity.gov](http://www.socialsecurity.gov).

For example, you can apply online for Social Security retirement benefits. Not sure whether you're ready for retirement? We can help you plot your course with our online benefit



[www.socialsecurity.gov](http://www.socialsecurity.gov).

One of our most powerful tools is our website: my Social Security. Create your online account at [www.socialsecurity.gov/myaccount](http://www.socialsecurity.gov/myaccount) and then you'll always have quick and easy access to see and update your information. You can use my Social Security to get estimates of your retirement, disability, and survivors benefits; view your earnings record; and get estimates of the Social Security and Medicare taxes you've paid.

If you already receive Social Security benefits, you can use your account to get an instant benefit verification letter, check your benefit and payment information, and to change your address, phone number, and

direct deposit information. If you receive Medicare, you can get a replacement Medicare card using my Social Security. Whether you receive benefits or not, you may be able to apply for a replacement Social Security card in certain states, all online.

We've made exploring your bright future secure and easy at [www.socialsecurity.gov](http://www.socialsecurity.gov). Remember, we're with you through life's journey. Social Security online tools will help you decide when to weigh anchor, and venture into the seas of retirement.

planners. Perhaps the most impressive of these planners is the online Retirement Estimator, which you can use to get quick and accurate estimates of your retirement benefits based on different scenarios. You also can apply online for disability benefits and even apply online for help to pay the costs of the Medicare prescription drug program at

## CAREGIVER continued

- Your coping abilities. How you coped with stress in the past predicts how you will cope now. Identify your current coping strengths so that you can build on them.

- Your caregiving situation. Some caregiving situations are more stressful than others. For example, caring for a person with dementia is often more stressful than caring for someone with a physical limitation.

- Whether support is available.

Once you've started to identify any personal barriers to good self-care, you can begin to change your behavior, moving forward one small step at a time.

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# What is the Medicare Annual Open Enrollment Period?

You may have noticed a large number of television commercials talking about the 2018 Medicare Open Enrollment Period, also referred to as the Medicare Annual Election Period. What exactly is the annual open enrollment period and how does it affect you?

Every year between October 15 and December 7, Medicare beneficiaries may make their annual election concerning Medicare Part C (Medicare Advantage) and Part D (Prescription Drug) coverage for the following calendar year.

During the open enrollment period, a Medicare beneficiary can make the following elections:

1. Switch from Original Medicare to a Medicare Advantage Plan.
2. Switch from a Medicare Advantage Plan to Original Medicare.
3. Switch Medicare Advantage Plans.
4. Add, switch, or drop Prescription Drug coverage with Original Medicare.

Towards the end of September, beneficiaries enrolled in Medicare Part C or D received a 2018 renewal packet in the mail. Do not disregard this envelope. Carefully review its internal materials.

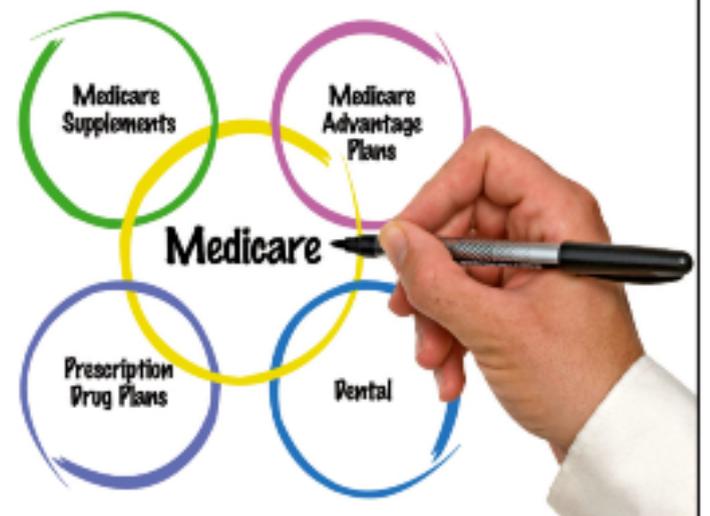
A Medicare Advantage Plan or a Prescription Drug Plan can make certain changes every year. For example, the premium, benefit coverages, and/or provider networks may change, including participating physicians and preferred pharmacies. By reviewing the material, a beneficiary can consider staying in their current plan (if still offered) or changing to a new plan that better fits their needs. Changes will take effect on January 1 of the next calendar year.

Think of open enrollment as the annual time to review your Medicare coverage. There are many choices to consider and all beneficiaries should be fully informed about the various options. Talk to a Medicare specialist if you have questions about how Medicare may impact you.

Century Health Solutions is a subsidiary of Stormont Vail Health, Topeka, and provides free Medicare Educational Seminars. We are your local expert in Medicare insurance planning and will help you find the best option for your personal situation. Call us at **785-270-4593** Monday-Friday, 8:00am-4:30pm with questions or to sign up for a free seminar. For more information go to [www.centuryinsuranceagencyks.com](http://www.centuryinsuranceagencyks.com) or email [info@century-health.com](mailto:info@century-health.com).

### Upcoming Seminar Dates:

- 10/31/17 2:00 p.m. - 929 Mulvane
- 11/02/17 2:00 p.m. - 929 Mulvane
- 11/07/17 6:30 p.m. - 4505 NW Fielding Rd
- 11/09/17 2:00 p.m. - 929 Mulvane
- 11/14/17 2:00 p.m. - 929 Mulvane







## Getting Prepped for Winter

(Family Features) The onset and arrival of colder temperatures means that it's time once again to brace yourself – and your home – for everything that winter weather threatens to throw at you. From cool, drafty air wafting into your house to friends and family bringing snow and sand inside with them, it's important to remember the preparation to go through before winter strikes.

In order to help keep your home warm, cozy and clean throughout the winter months, follow these seven tips to get started:

### Check the Roof

With warm days dwindling, it's

never too early to look over your roof for damaged shingles or other various problems. Because winter brings along cold weather and plenty of precipitation, cracks in the roof can cause major issues down the road. If heights and ladders aren't your thing, try using binoculars from ground level to check things out.



fill up with leaves and other junk, the runoff from rain and snow has nowhere to go except in unwanted crevices in your roof.

### Clean the Gutters

After the trees shake loose of their leaves throughout the fall, it's always imperative to keep the gutters clean of debris. If your gutters

### Seal Leaks Around Windows and Doors

Caulk is a cheap, simple solution to one of winter's most annoying little habits – sending cold drafts into your house. Look closely as you check around windows and doors for small cracks then carefully seal up the problem.

### Install Door Sweeps

Another way to keep warm air in and cool air out is to use door sweeps on the bottom of all exterior doors. A door sweep is a simple device that can be attached to the door frame to help seal the space between the bottom of the door and the floor.

### Reverse Ceiling Fans

While some ceiling fans require flipping blades, most new fans simply have a reverse feature to make the blades spin clockwise. This easy fix can help pull room air upward and cause warm air – which has risen to the ceiling – to be forced back downward.

### Keep Out Sand and Snow

Rather than sweeping and vacuuming your entryway every evening, place rugs and storage bins close to your front door, garage and any other entrance to the home so that you and your guests don't track sand and snow into the house when inclement weather hits.

Stock Up on Winter Gear

Unfortunately, it's impossible to know exactly what each winter will bring. Rather than trying to fight the elements on a snowy day to find salt for your sidewalk or a new shovel to clear the driveway, stock up on these items and other winter essentials long before Mother Nature strikes.

Winter can be a pain, especially for homeowners, but staying on top of your preparation and being ready for cold weather's reach can help make snow season easier to handle. For more tips to get your home ready for winter, visit [elivingtoday.com](http://elivingtoday.com).

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**FALL IS FOR PLANTING!**

**Annette's tip**  
If tiny chickweed or henbit weeds are appearing on the surface of your lawn, it's time to use Ferti-Lome Weedout or Weed-Free Zone (as recommended by K-State) to kill these weeds now while they are young. It will also kill clover and dandelions if they are still present. It's time to plant spring-blooming bulbs and time to fertilize trees and shrubs. Plant perennials, trees and shrubs now for better growth next year. Finally, it's time to NOT plant a yard. Wait until after Thanksgiving to overseed using the dormant seed method.

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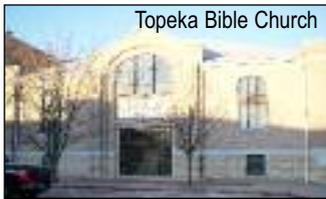
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Sat 8:30-5:00



# New Resident Church Guide

- 1. THE GREAT I AM CHURCH**  
Breaking Traditions  
Non-Denominational  
Pastor Cordell Fischer  
2523 SE Indiana  
(785) 861-0422  
www.greatIAMchurch.com
- 2. CHRISTIAN CAVALRY MINISTRIES INT.**  
Pastor Beaux Bryant  
c/o Seaman Baptist Church  
2015 NW Buchanan, Topeka Ks 66608  
785-224-5419 • www.church4bikers.org  
Sun. School 9:30 am  
Sun. Service 10:45 am  
Wed. Prayer & Bible Study 7pm
- 3. TOPEKA BIBLE CHURCH**  
1101 SW Mulvane St., Topeka  
785-234-5545  
Worship: 8:00 - 9:30 & 11am  
Sunday School & Bible Studies:  
9:30 & 11am  
www.discovertbc.com
- 4. NORTHLAND CHRISTIAN CHURCH**  
3102 NW Topeka Blvd., Topeka  
286-1204  
Worship Sun. 8:00, 9:30 & 11am  
www.northland.cc
- 5. FAIRLAWN CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE**  
730 SW Fairlawn Rd., Topeka, KS  
(785) 272-6322 • www.FairlawnNaz.org  
Sunday Worship: 10:40 am  
Adult, Youth & Children's Sun. School 9:15
- 6. FIRST SOUTHERN BAPTIST**  
1912 SW Gage, Topeka, KS  
272-0443 www.fsbctopeka.org

- Sunday Services:  
8:30 AM Traditional Worship  
9:45 AM Bible study--all ages  
11 AM Contemporary Worship
- 7. TOPEKA BAPTIST CHURCH**  
"Finding NEW LIFE in CHRIST"  
Sunday Worship 9:30 & 10:45am, 5pm  
~ Sunday School for all ages ~  
4500 SW Gage Blvd., Topeka  
785-862-0988  
www.topekabaptist.org
  - 8. WANAMAKER ROAD BAPTIST CHURCH**  
"Being and making disciples of Jesus Christ by the power of the Gospel, to the glory of God"  
2700 SW Wanamaker Rd., Topeka  
(785) 272-9323 www.wrbcctopeka.com  
Traditional Sunday Worship 10:30am & 6pm  
Sunday School 9am • Wed. Prayer 7pm
  - 9. GRACE COMMUNITY CHURCH**  
310 E 8th St (E. US 56 Hwy)  
Overbrook, KS; 785-665-7117  
Elvin Dillard, Senior Pastor  
Sunday School 9 am; Worship 10 am  
www.gccinoverbrook.com  
office@gccinoverbrook.com
  - 10. LORD'S HOUSE CHURCH**  
300 SW Roosevelt, Topeka KS 66606  
Pastor Marilyn Hahn McGinnis  
10 a.m. Sunday (Non-traditional Service)  
See "About Us" at our website  
www.kawriverkeruv.com  
Questions? kawriverlordshouse@att.net
  - 11. COMMUNITY CHURCH**  
1819 SW 21st St., Topeka  
233-3537 www.CommunityChurchKS.com  
Sun. 9:30am - Sunday School for all ages  
Sun. 10:30am - Worship & Word, Children  
Wed. 6:30pm - Children, Youth, Adult  
~ Nursery care for all services ~

- 12. BUCK CREEK COUNTRY CHURCH**  
Meeting at Buck Creek School House  
5 mi. east of Perry on Hwy 24, 13th & Phillips Rd.  
Childrens Sunday School - 8:30 a.m.  
Worship Service - 9:00 a.m.  
Contacts: Logan Barnett 785-597-5498,  
Scott Bond 423-0406, Jack Snavelly 760-3513
- 13. WANAMAKER WOODS NAZARENE**  
Serving Christ - Loving People  
3501 SW Wanamaker Rd • 273-2248  
Dr. L.D. Holmes, Sr. Pastor  
www.wwnaz.org  
Sun. Worship: 9am (Hymns) & 11 am  
Children's Worship 9 & 11 am  
Sunday School 10 am, all ages  
Sun. Evening Various Children's Programs  
6 pm Life Groups; 6:30 pm Teen Service  
Wed. 6:30 pm Adult & Teen Life Groups  
Wed. 6:30 pm Kids University  
~ Nursery care at all services ~
- 14. GRACE LIFE CONNECTION**  
*Living grace inside-out  
in an upside-down world*  
Saturdays @ 5:00 PM  
Papan's Landing Senior Center  
621 NW Paramore St. Topeka, KS  
Pastor Pete Whitebird
- 15. OAKLAND UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**  
801 NE Chester, Topeka, KS 66616  
235-1010 • oumc@att.net  
Shawn O'Trimble, Pastor  
Sunday School 9:15am, Worship 10:30am  
Children's worship time 10:30am  
Hear us on WREN Radio Sun. 10-11am  
Like us on Facebook!  
All are welcome - Come and see us!
- 16. HOUSE OF THE LORD CHURCH**  
A Spirit-filled, Word-centered church  
2531 SE Wittenberg Rd., Topeka  
Sunday Worship 11am & 6pm  
Wed. Prayer & Praise 7pm



- 17. EAST SIDE BAPTIST CHURCH**  
4425 S.E. 29th St., 379-9933  
Sunday Worship 10:45am & 6:00pm  
AWANA Sunday at 5:45 p.m.  
See our website for info on our  
Student Ministries & Kid City  
www.esbcks.org
- 18. CHRIST THE KING CATHOLIC CHURCH**  
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Topeka, KS 66614 • 273-0710  
Reconciliation: Sat 3-4pm  
Weekend Masses: Sat 4:30pm  
Sunday 7:30, 9, 11am, 6pm  
www.cktopeka.org
- 19. SEAMAN COMMUNITY CHURCH**  
Independent Christ-Centered Bible Church  
2036 NW Taylor, Topeka, KS  
354-8777 • www.seamanchurch.com  
Adult Sunday School - Sun. 9:30am  
Sunday Worship: 10:30am  
Children's Sunday School: 10:30am  
Youth group 1st & 3rd Sundays 4-6pm
- 20. HERITAGE BAPTIST CHURCH**  
1937 NE Madison St,  
Topeka, KS 66616 • 785-506-4594  
Pastor Dale Stockburger  
Sunday Worship: 10 am and 6pm  
Junior Church for kids: Sun 10am  
Wed. Evening Worship: 7pm
- 21. HARVEST FAMILY FELLOWSHIP**  
Meets at 522 SW Polk  
785-220-5418  
Pastor Rey Rodriguez  
Sun. Worship 10 am  
www.topekaharvest.vpweb.com
- 22. NEW CITY LIFE CHURCH**  
5221 SW West Drive  
Topeka, Kansas 66606  
Sunday Services - 10:00 am  
Pastor Kathy Crofford
- 23. HIGHLAND HEIGHTS CHRISTIAN CHURCH** 785-379-5642  
Sunday Services: 8:30 and 10:00 AM  
Jars of Clay Children's Center now open  
Taking registrations: 785-379-9098  
2930 SE Tecumseh Road  
Tecumseh, Kansas 66542

# classified

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**WANTED: VOLUNTEER WRITERS** – Metro Voice needs volunteer writers or interns who can serve as area correspondents for church and community news around the metro area. Call 235-3340 or email voice@cox.net. Some perks i

**WANTED: MINISTRY STAFF** – Topeka Rescue Mission's Children's Palace needs qualified ministry staff to minister to homeless children and

their families. Must be ministry-minded with a strong passion for Jesus and children, and have previous experience working in the field of early childhood education. For a list of positions & qualifications needed, visit [trmonline.org](http://trmonline.org). Send resumes and/or inquires to [jhosman@trmonline.org](mailto:jhosman@trmonline.org)

line.org or call 785-730-8802.

**WANTED: VOLUNTEERS** – Caring Pregnancy Options has some openings for volunteers. Call Kathy Hart at 785-249-6130 or stop by our office, 2041 SW McAlister Ave, Mon - Thur 10-5.

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Second Service & Sunday School: 9:30 - 10:40am  
Third Service & Sunday School: 11am - 12:10pm  
Senior Pastor: Jim Congdon

## LEGISLATIVE ASSISTANT Kansas Catholic Conference

The Legislative Assistant has a wide variety of responsibilities. The primary responsibility is advocacy on behalf of KCC positions at the Kansas Legislature. This involves meeting with state representatives and senators, submitting written testimony and delivering spoken testimony at committee hearings, and speaking on behalf of the Conference at various functions. Public speaking is an important part of this position's responsibilities.

The Legislative Assistant position also involves significant clerical and administrative office support responsibilities (ordering supplies, scheduling meetings, filing, etc.). *This position is for someone with the flexibility to handle both the lobbying and the clerical aspects of the position with equal dedication.*

The KCC is open to a flexible work schedule for this position part time and/or full time or a blend of both. However, it is important that the Legislative Assistant work full time during the legislative session.

**View full job description and application information at: <http://tinyurl.com/legislativeassistant>**

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CAGE Gymnastics offers programs designed to promote age-appropriate skill development in a fun and safe environment. Your child will be able to build an athletic foundation for all sports through the strength, flexibility, and coordination that only the challenge of gymnastics can offer. As your child progresses, CAGE seeks to develop such principles as goal setting, time management, sportsmanship, dedication and discipline – all of which are important life-skills taught in each and every one of

their programs. All of these aspects of learning contribute to a positive self-image and personal success.

From beginners to advanced students, the friendly staff will help you find the class or activity to meet you and your children's goals.

CAGE Gymnastics preschool classes and lesson plans were designed with the developmental milestones of your preschooler in mind. All of their preschool gymnastics classes are taught in their "tots" room with some introduction into the main gym which will allow your child to feel more secure and to better maintain focus. Your child will participate in age-appropriate activities designed to enhance coordination, strength, flexibility, hand-eye coordination and exploration while learning gymnastics on specially-designed equipment just their size.

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If you are looking for a way to get your child to engage with others in a fun, physically active environment, then CAGE Gymnastics is the answer for you.

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You see, Pizagel's opens at 6:00 AM every day except Sunday, when they open at 7:00 AM, to start your day off with a tasty breakfast. Besides various flavors of bagels and delicious cream cheeses, you can get an egg and cheese croissant or English muffin with your choice of meats and veggies.

There are also fresh pastries, breads, muffins and new cresnuts with a large variety of toppings to go along with

them. Owner Jim Burgardt says, "Our baked goods are made fresh from scratch every day." Because everything is baked fresh each day it would be a good idea to call Pizagel's a day or two ahead of time if you need a large order.

Pizagel's is also open every day until 9:00 PM so you can get a delightful lunch or dinner. They serve all sorts of sandwiches made with their fresh baked breads, croissants and bagels. Add a bowl of soup and smoothie or espresso drink and you have a great meal.

Since it is in the name you would expect Pizagel's to offer a great selection

of Pizza's – and you will not be disappointed. Pizagel's offers pizza by the slice for lunch, personal sized mini-pizzas and small to extra-large pies in many different combinations, such as; Supreme, Meat-Lovers, Taco, Chicken Alfredo, Buffalo Chicken, Philly Cheese Steak and Southwestern to name a few. Pair one of these pies with a cold beer or glass of wine for a delicious dining experience.

The bottom line is that everything you eat at Pizagel's Pizza & Bakery is fresh made daily with the best ingredients at a locally owned, family restaurant. Stop by 2830 SW Fairlawn Road, order online at [www.pizagels.com](http://www.pizagels.com) or call them at (785) 273-7070 and see for yourself what Pizagel's is all about.

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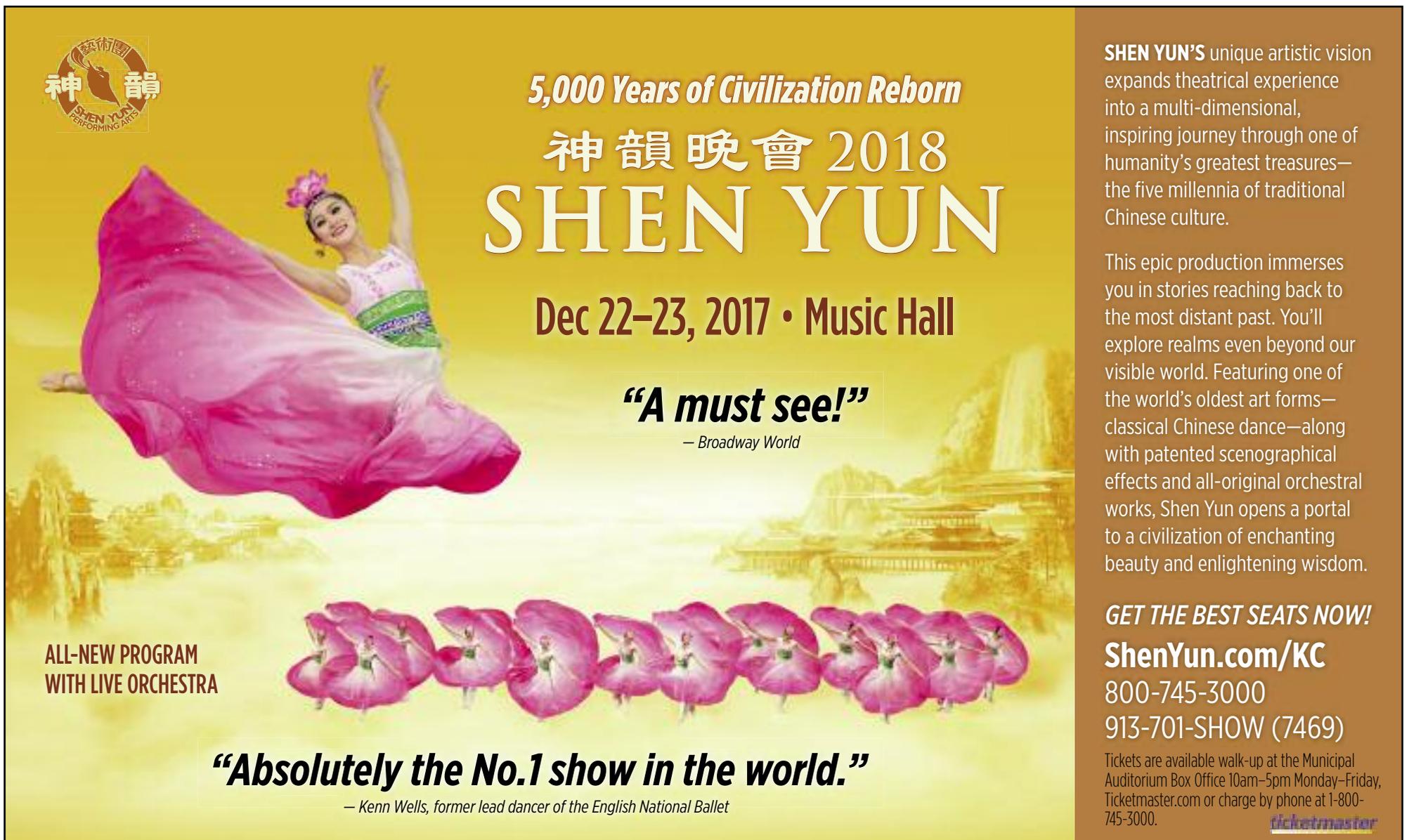
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